House to undergo P150-M makeover

STORY ON PAGE A2

Pakistan downs Indian spy plane

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan—An unmanned Indian spy plane shot down by Pakistan was carrying an Israeli-made camera and caught fire moments after it came under attack, witnesses and officials said Saturday.

Pakistan said the incident "can only enhance the dangers" of an escalation in tensions that international envoys

PAKISTAN/ A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

TODAY IN THE Sunday INQUIRER Magazine

- Vince Hizon plays for education
- Rufa Mae Quinto takes off

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph June 9, 2002 ★★ 90 pages / 6 sections / vol.17 / no. 181 P15 website: www.inq7.net

Martin saved Gracia

AIR FORCE helicopter gunner scans the jungle of Sirawai, Zamboanga del Norte, for the Abu Sayyaf bandits fleeing pursuing troops. PHOTOS BY AP

SIX-YEAR-OLD Lawrence William Yap looks innocently at the body of his mother, Ediborah Yap, during her wake in Zamboanga City. He is the youngest of Ediborah's four children.

Wounded soldier says Burnham shielded his wife up to the last

By Fe B. Zamora *INQ7.net*
and Julie S. Alipala, *PDI Mindanao Bureau*

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A wounded soldier recalled yesterday a heartrending sight moments after the bloody battle with the Abu Sayyaf bandit group near the town of Sirawai in Zamboanga del Norte ended on Friday.

Gracia Burnham, wearing a black sweatshirt and gray trainer pants, sat slumped on the forest floor beside a hammock amid heavy rain, crying silently beside her dead husband, Martin Burnham.

"Martin lay prone beside her," Army Scout Ranger Rodelio Tuazon told the Agence France Presse at his hospital bed here. "She knew he was dead."

Martin had apparently tried to protect his wife up to the last.

According to the account of another soldier, when troops reached them on Friday afternoon, Martin's bullet-riddled body was "covering" Gracia.

"He was determined to keep Gracia alive," Lt. Col. Reynato Padua, commander of the 1st Scout Rangers Battalion, told INQ7.net in a satellite phone interview.

Tuazon recalled Gracia asking "if we got Sabaya," referring to Abu Sayyaf leader Abu Sabaya, who has acted as spokesperson for the ruthless bandit group in the missionary couple's 376 days of captivity.

Tuazon asked her "if he is the long-haired one," referring to a dead bandit whose blood-spattered remains lay nearby.

"No, in the green tent," Gracia Burnham told him.

Tuazon checked the tent, but it was empty except for an abandoned M-16 assault rifle.

The bloody operation in Barangay Sipawak on the border of Sirawai and Sibuco towns in Zamboanga del Norte resulted in the death of Martin and Filipina nurse Ediborah Yap, as well as four Abu Sayyaf rebels. None of the

MARTIN/ A20

Gloria to AFP: Now's the time to finish them off

By TJ Burgonio
and Dona Z. Pazzibugan

WITH the hostage crisis over, the Armed Forces of the Philippines is under orders from its commander in chief to finish off the Abu Sayyaf.

"Now is the time," President Macapagal-Arroyo declared at a press briefing yesterday in Camp Aguinaldo. "In the past, the military always had to hold their fire because of the hostages. Now they can really be in hot pursuit, and they are doing that."

The President earlier called a command conference with the top brass at Camp Aguinaldo to be briefed on the ongoing pursuit operations. "We will forge on with greater fervor and tenacity until the Abu Sayyaf is finished," she said later. "The pace of the offensive operation is unrelenting. The morale and fitness of our troops are high."

Ms Macapagal also said US President George W. Bush had called for stepped-up joint operations against the Abu Sayyaf and assured her of the "continuing help of the United States in pushing the operation forward."

She said Bush called her late Friday, hours after the bloody rescue attempt that left American Martin Burnham and Filipino Ediborah Yap dead, and Martin's wife Gracia wounded.

Asked in an ambush interview if the President had issued new orders against the Abu Sayyaf, Defense Secre-

GLORIA/ A20

Martin Burnham: Jolly man with big heart

By Ben Moses Ebreo
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau
and Donna Cueto *in Manila*

ARITAO, Nueva Vizcaya—A jolly man with a big heart.

This was how residents and members of the Bugkalot tribe here remember American missionary Martin Burnham of the New Tribes Mission (NTM).

Leonida Castaneto, 64, said that during the Burnhams' five-year stay at the 3-hectare NTM compound in Barangay Darapidap here, Martin usually invited children on Saturdays and Sundays for Bible study in the village.

"They even provided snacks for the children. Martin was a very friendly and jolly person," a tearful Castaneto said.

She said Martin and Gracia usually gave baby clothes to neighbors, candies to children and financial assistance to poor families.

"Martin even gave me P500 when my wife was about to give birth. Gracia gave us baby clothes and chicken meat," Castaneto's son, Lito, 34, told the INQUIRER.

Their neighbors said that whenever they needed assistance for transportation or hospitalization expenses, the couple was always available to help, even during odd hours.

"If we could only help them," Castaneto said.

"I cannot say anything negative about Martin and Gracia. They were very caring and helpful to us," Alma, a former worker of the NTM, said in the local dialect.

She said the Burnhams learned Ilocano, the predominant language in Nueva Vizcaya. The couple also worked with the Bugkalots and other tribes in the province and this helped them understand the local culture.

Martin's death brought sad-

BURNHAM/ A20

MIKE ALQUINTO

PARTY PEOPLE

President Macapagal-Arroyo and former President Fidel Ramos appear to be discussing a less than cheery topic at a pre-wedding party. But Pampanga Vice Gov. Mikey Arroyo and his bride-to-be, Angela Montenegro, are nothing but starry-eyed. *Story in Lifestyle, Page C8*

Inquirer, local magazine win Asian awards

HONG KONG—Randy David's column on the roots of poverty in the country won for the Philippine Daily Inquirer honorable mention in the opinion category of the 4th Society of Publishers in Asia (Sopa) Awards for Editorial Excellence.

Dominated by giant media organizations like Time Asia, Newsweek and the Asian Wall Street Journal, the prestigious Sopa Awards also saw a Philippine medical magazine pull off a surprise with the Best Front Cover award.

The limited circulation monthly Medical Observer for health professionals beat the big international media players with its haunting cover of its special issue on depression and suicide.

The awards, which drew a total of 244 entries, were announced during the Sopa gala dinner emceed by Hong Kong-based freelance broadcast journalist Karen Koh at the American Club here on Thursday.

The Society of Publishers in Asia

INQUIRER/ A21

Second FRONT PAGE

House to undergo ₱150-M makeover

By Joey A. Gabieta
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY — With the Senate and the House of Representatives being rocked by crises of leadership and direction, the lower chamber will spend close to P150 million next month to refurbish its session hall.

This was revealed yesterday by Leyte Rep. Ted Failon who told the INQUIRER that while the project "was good, this was not the proper time for it, especially since Congress has come under public criticism" for the events of the past week.

The week saw the Senate minority grab power and Senate president Franklin Drilon prematurely adjourn the upper chamber's remaining sessions. The leadership of the House, in a show of support for the administration senators, also shut their chamber down.

In both instances, the minority continued with the sessions, albeit the House did it outside its padlocked session hall.

Failon said that Surigao del Norte Rep. Robert Ace Barbers, chair of the House committee on accounts, had approved the release of the P150 million for the renovation that will last 45 days. Failon said the money was to be taken from the House's general appropriations fund.

Construction work will start this month and is expected to be finished in time for the reopening of Congress on July 22.

The renovation work will include the repair of the session hall's ceiling and the purchase of new carpets.

Failon said new computers and other equipment will also be bought and installed on the tables of all the congressmen so they could have "easy access to (Speaker Jose) de Venecia."

"I think the House leadership needs to explain to the public the necessity of this project at this time when public criticism is so loud," Failon, a former broadcast journalist, told the INQUIRER.

"This will bring us more criticism from the public," he added.

Failon said the image of the House was "damaged" when De Venecia adjourned last Tuesday's session, a day after Drilon and the administration senators refused to attend sessions under the new majority led by Sen. Aquilino Pimentel.

Those sessions, presided over by Sen. Blas Ople, saw the passage of four Senate bills.

At the House, the early adjournment affected the passage of two bills he was sponsoring, Failon said.

One was a bill seeking to exempt the Eastern Visayas region from paying the purchased power adjustment (PPA) charge on electric bills since many geothermal power plants are located in the region.

The other bill seeks the conversion of the Leyte Institute of Technology into a state university. Both bills were on their second reading, Failon said.

Birthday poser: Should Customs chief accept gifts?

By Armand N. Nocum

CUSTOMS Commissioner Antonio Bernardo has a problem that most unscrupulous government officials would not think twice about.

The new head of the agency that is ranked as one of government's most corrupt wonders if he should accept the presents that are sure to pour in for him on June 13, his 48th birthday.

Bernardo, former finance undersecretary, explained that he is wary because it is sometimes difficult to differentiate between a gift and a bribe. "People are keenly watching my moves," he said.

Gifts streamed in immediately after President Macapagal-Arroyo announced his appointment, a month before he assumed the post last March. This prompted him to lay down a no-gifts policy.

"I told my staff then at the Department of Finance: strictly no gifts, especially from customs people and anyone transacting business with the bureau," he said.

The gifts were all returned, he said, and he has been saying "no" almost on a daily basis since then.

But he admits that he has been having second thoughts over accepting gifts of food and fruits that are bound to spoil. Gift-giving is a part of Filipino tradition, he pointed out, and he may be perceived as being a snob if he returned them. "My wife says that would be overdoing it," he said.

He passed on some of the food baskets to various charities, such as a school for the deaf, hoping it would not be construed as a political stunt, he said.

Bernardo, who placed second in the 1988 bar exams, unsuccessfully ran for the Mandaluyong congressional seat in 1995 and 1998.

"Ninety percent of the people who give me advice, solicited or not, say I should accept the gifts that are coming in now, because it's my birthday," he says. "I'm thinking, maybe I should, but only on the day itself. If they're one day late, that's just too bad."

He will make up his mind today.

DENR trains its eye on coastal resources

THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources is moving to strengthen the capability of local government units in protecting the coastal resources of municipalities and cities in a project called "EcoGovernance."

The program, which is seeking funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), will cover municipalities in Mindanao, including the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Central Visayas and parts of Northern Luzon, Environment Secretary Heherson T. Alvarez said in a press statement.

Alvarez said the program is designed at building and strengthening the capability of LGUs to reverse the degradation of coastal resources, loss of forest cover and solid waste management implementation.

Sustainable development cannot take place where rampant poverty exists, the secretary said.

He said he has signed DENR Administrative Order No. 17 to start the delineation and delimitation of municipal waters to protect the preferential rights of some two million subsistence fishermen who comprise the bulk of 5.2 million families who live below the poverty line.

The DENR has also accelerated the government's land distribution program, issuing some 13,946 land application certificates covering 14,602 hectares and releasing another 29,675 application covering 21,986 hectares.

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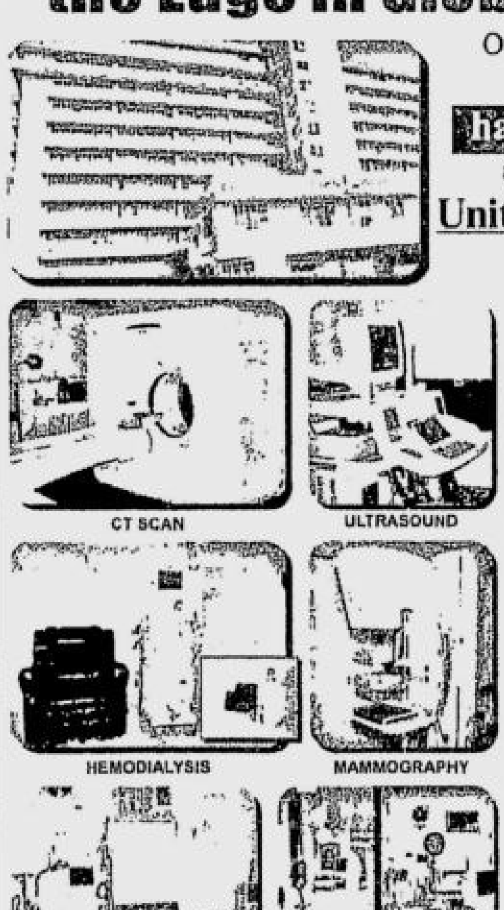

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Senate to press FVR to appear on PPA

By Cynthia D. Balana

"A CHANCE to explain... not to embarrass him, but to allow him to air his side in the PPA controversy."

With these words, new Senate Majority Leader Aquilino Pimentel explained why the new majority in the Senate will press for the appearance of former President Fidel Ramos before the chamber that saw a sudden shift in balance last week.

Pimentel and the former members of the minority who now make up the majority had wanted to hear from Ramos on the contracts forged during his administration with independent power producers (IPPs).

The contracts between the IPPs and the National Power Corp. resulted in an end to the blackouts of the early '90s, and in the onerous purchased power agreement (PPA) rates being charged electricity consumers today.

Pimentel said Ramos' appearance before the Senate committee on energy would give him the chance to explain his role in the approval of the IPP contracts.

The Senate, during a recent three-day session called by the new majority, approved Resolution No. 358 authorizing its standing committees to conduct public hearings during the one-and-a-half month recess Congress is currently in.

Pimentel said it was the controversy over the PPA that triggered last week's reorganization at the Senate.

He said Sen. John Osmeña bolted the former majority because he was dismayed at the maneuverings of Sen. Renato Cayetano, then energy committee chair, to block moves to summon Ramos.

Osmeña accused Cayetano of protecting Ramos, whom Cayetano had served as chief presidential legal counsel during Ramos' term.

In last week's Senate revamp, Osmeña was given the chairmanship of the energy committee vice Cayetano.

Pimentel noted that Ramos had been giving his side in the PPA controversy to the media but appeared hesitant to face a Senate inquiry.

"There has been much speculation about people who made a killing from the IPP contracts. Now is the chance of Mr. Ramos to give a full explanation," Pimentel said.

Yesterday, another member of the new majority, Sen. Edgardo Angara, offered a legislative strategy to end "coups" and frequent changes of leadership in the Senate.

The key, Angara said, is the passage of two pending measures that would reform political parties and the campaign finance system.

Both measures impose a heavy penalty on elective officials who change political affiliations.

The Political Party Act seeks to strengthen political parties through a direct subsidy called the Political Development Fund. The subsidy from the state shall be used for organizational and party building work.

The Campaign Finance Reform Act, on the other hand, seeks financial assistance from the state for political parties involved in electoral campaigns. It practically bans elective officials from switching parties.

The twin measures also seek to establish strict accounting and auditing rules for the state funds.

Angara said the state subsidy would wean political parties away from the financiers, oligarchs, vice lords and others who normally bankroll candidates with strings attached.

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Malnutrition rate climbing—Angara

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE NUMBER of malnourished Filipino kids will reach 22.7 million by 2015 if the problem of child malnutrition remains unchecked, according to Sen. Edgardo Angara.

Angara, who is leaving for Rome to attend the World Food Summit with Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona and Sen. Manuel Villar, said the government has failed miserably to arrest the problem of malnutrition since 1996, when the figure was at 13.6 million children affected. In 2002, he said, the figure reached 15.6 million children.

The figures, he said, had come from the Department of Agriculture and the Nutrition Center of the Philippines during a recent Senate hearing.

He said these were the figures he would report to the WFS in Rome.

Angara said the 18 percent increase in the number of malnourished children indicated the need to come up with viable and well-funded programs to fight child malnutrition.

He said other critical aspects in the fight against malnutrition were the under-investment in the agriculture sector and massive rural poverty.

"Three of four poor Filipinos are in the rural areas," Angara said. "The slow pace of agricultural development also fails to uplift these areas from poverty, which is the main reason for the runaway malnutrition rate."

Before heading for Rome, Guingona flew to Madrid, Spain for the 4th Asean Foreign Ministers' Conference, which is aimed at strengthening Asian-European ties.

Guingona said the ministers' meet will delve into issues of globalization and the economic policies adopted in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the US.

Guingona said the new international security situation would be assessed, including issues affecting the Middle East, Afghanistan, India and Pakistan.

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Warning up vs dengue

By Armand N. Nocum

THE DEPARTMENT of Health has urged the public to keep their surroundings clean and destroy all possible breeding places of mosquitoes which cause dengue, as the rainy season starts.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said DOH records showed that Metro Manila was second only to another region in the country in the number of dengue cases recorded from January to May this year.

In a statement, Dayrit said that region was Southern Mindanao, which had 338 cases of dengue fever. Metro Manila, or the National Capital Region, came second with 296 cases.

Third and fourth on the list were Eastern Visayas with 240 cases and Central Visayas with 160 cases, respectively.

Dayrit said the numbers have not changed when compared to previous years, indicating no increase in the number of dengue cases.

The records showed 52 percent of those afflicted with the hemorrhagic disease were male children between 1 to 9 years old, a very active age group that played outdoors a lot.

Dayrit said the best way to prevent dengue is to clear our surroundings of containers that may hold clean and clear water, the favorite breeding ground of the dengue mosquito.

Death for family affirmed by SC

THE SUPREME Court has upheld the conviction of four members of an Iloilo City family for conspiring to kill a neighbor in 1994.

The high tribunal, noting that it was rare for family members to conspire with one another to commit murder, affirmed the conviction of the Galgo brothers, Domitilo, Diosdado and Nelson, and their father, Avelino.

The decision, written by Associate Justice Santiago Kapunan, was promulgated on May 28 but released only Friday.

The Galgos had been sentenced to death by the Iloilo City Regional Trial Court Branch 23 for the Oct. 2, 1994 killing of Tranquilino Quiling.

The lower court had also ordered the Galgos to pay damages to the heirs of the victim.

The SC ordered the Galgoses to pay the heirs an additional P50,000 as indemnity.

According to court records, the victim was drinking with several friends when the three Galgos brothers and their father arrived, each armed with a shotgun.

Witnesses testified the Galgoses shot the victim at pointblank range.

The motive for the murder was unclear although witnesses said that a brother of Quiling's had had a quarrel with one of the Galgos brothers.

The SC said it was convinced that the accused were guilty beyond a reasonable doubt of the crime of murder.

It affirmed the conviction as there was no sufficient ground to deviate from the trial court's ruling. *Michael Lim Ubac*

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PDI's 'New Paper' Drive expands to Cebu, Davao

By Celine R. Madamba

TO MARK World Environment Day last June 5, the Philippine Daily Inquirer kicked off the second year of its "New Paper" Drive.

This year, the drive will last until Oct. 5, and will include the cities of Cebu and Davao in addition to Metro Manila, with the help of INQUIRER's affiliate FEP Printing Press.

A part of PDI's environmental agenda, the drive promotes solid waste management through the purchase, collection and recycling of old newspapers and tabloids.

The INQUIRER will purchase any and all newspapers and tabloids at P3 per kilo. These will then be recycled into reusable newsprint or "new paper," in an effort to offset the use of virgin pulp and minimize the need for landfills, which have caused both health and environmental hazards.

"Deforestation and mismanagement of waste continue to be important environmental concerns," said INQUIRER president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez.

Since 1903, the Philippines has lost over 67 percent of its forests, partly due to increased paper production, which consumes an average of 17 trees for every ton of paper produced. Local newspapers and tabloids use up more than 19,834 tons of newsprint every year. Only five percent of this is recycled.

Utilizing rainforests to produce paper has contributed to the loss of four billion trees or 78 million acres of rainforest worldwide every year. Between 1990 and 1995, net global forest loss was placed at 112,600 square kilometers, equivalent to 33 soccer fields per minute. Today, approximately 40 percent of the world's remaining frontier forest is under moderate or high threat.

To help in efforts addressing the effects of deforestation—which include global warming, soil erosion and the loss of homes for half of the planet's animal and plant species—the INQUIRER launched the New Paper Drive. Today, the INQUIRER uses 100 percent recycled newsprint and soy-based ink. It recently implemented a redesign, which uses 6.3 percent less newsprint and saves over six trees a day.

With its New Paper Drive, the INQUIRER aims to make waste desegregation and newspaper recycling a daily habit in homes, schools, offices and communities. Studies show that each ton of recycled paper means 64 percent less energy used and 74 percent less air pollution caused, over and above savings of 24,000 gallons of water and 3,700 pounds of lumber, or some 17 to 19 trees.

Last year, the New Paper Drive, test-piloted in Metro Manila, netted nearly 100,000 kilos of old newspapers and tabloids. Among the big participants were the Archdiocese of Manila, which enjoined the support of its parishes, and Metrobank, which offered 39 of its branches as drop-off points. The League of Corporate Foundations adopted the drive as an environmental and fund-raising initiative for its own social development programs during Corporate Social Responsibility Week.

"We are confident that with the participation of friends in the south, we can do much more in ensuring the sustainability of our rainforests and the future of our children," said Prieto-Romualdez.

Starting this week, walk-in sellers in Metro Manila can bring their newspapers and tabloids between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays, to the FEP Printing Press loading dock at 3817 Mascardo St., behind the INQUIRER building on Chino Roces Ave., Makati City. Or they can request a pickup for a minimum collection of 200 kilos. Walk-in sellers in Cebu and Davao will be entertained from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays to Fridays. Inquiries can be made through tel. nos. 897-8808 loc. 209 (Makati), (032) 340-7970/71 (Cebu) and (084) 244-1711/12 (Davao).

Heavy rains expected in North Luzon today

TROPICAL Storm "Espada" will continue affecting the northern tip of Luzon over the weekend before leaving Philippine territory toward Okinawa, Japan, tomorrow afternoon.

Storm Signal No. 1 remained hoisted over Basco, Batanes, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration's 5 p.m. bulletin yesterday.

Packing sustained winds of up to 75 kph and with gustiness of 90 kph, Espada was spotted rolling east northeast at 19 kph, the weather bureau said.

Entering the country's area of responsibility last Friday, it is expected to be 590 km northeast of Basco this afternoon. ***Volt Contreras, AP***

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GenSan braces for Abu rescue try

By Aquiles Z. Zonio
PDI Mindanao Bureau

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Security at the city jail here has been tightened after authorities received an intelligence report the Abu Sayyaf was planning to spring their comrades who are being held there.

A Philippine Marine contingent was called in to beef up security at the jail located in Barangay Apopong, Lanton, as a precaution.

In November 2000, suspected Pentagon kidnap gang leader Tahir Alonto escaped from the same jail after about 80 of his followers attacked the six-hectare compound. More than 60 other inmates managed to escape during the attack.

City police sources confirmed to the INQUIRER they had received reports the bandit group was planning to rescue Ahmad Saluan, alias Jay-R Jekiron, Alman Amerrudin, Jehon Amerrudin and Khalid Hadjullah, all suspected Abu Sayyaf members.

The suspects, who allegedly belonged to a special Abu Sayyaf group operating in the South Cotabato-Sarangani-General Santos City (Socsargen) area, were believed to be close aides of Ustadz Noor Muhammad Umog, alias Commander Abu Muslim Alghazie, the main suspect in the bombing that killed 15 persons at the city commercial center here on April 21. The bombing at the Fitmart Center wounded more than 60 others.

Jekiron and the other three men were arrested by police and military operatives in Cotabato City on May 9. They were about to withdraw money from an automated teller machine.

Umog, their alleged leader, was captured late last month while driving a tricycle on Almonte Ext. in Cotabato City.

Umog is being held at the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group headquarters at Camp Fermin G. Lira Jr. here.

The Department of Justice said it considered Umog a high-risk prisoner and had asked the local court, which will be hearing his cases, to have him transferred to Manila.

Other high-risk Abu Sayyaf members being held here include Nadzmie Saabdulla, the bandit group's alleged chief of staff.

It was not known how the military assault on the main group of Abu Sayyaf bandits on Friday that resulted in the deaths of two of the hostages they were holding would affect the group's planned operation here.

That attack saw the deaths of Martin Burnham and Ediborah Yap and the rescue of the wounded Gracia Burnham. The attack also caused the Abu Sayyaf to scatter and flee after the death of four of their comrades.

But authorities here said they were not taking any chances and were staying on high alert.

Bishop seeks relief of cops involved in Pentagon slay

KIDAPAWAN Bishop Romulo Valles has asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to relieve two top police officials in Region XII for their alleged role in the Feb. 17 killing in Cotabato of three suspected members of the Pentagon kidnap-for-ransom gang.

In a letter to the President dated May 29, Valles lamented that Senior Supt. Bartolome Baluyot, Region XII director, and Supt. Odelon Ramoneda, North Cotabato provincial director, were still at their posts "despite strong evidence" linking them to the incident.

He said relieving the two would be a strong signal that the President meant business when dealing with erring government officials under investigation.

Valles initially took into custody his three Cotabato policemen who had witnessed the alleged summary execution of the suspected Pentagon members. The three witnesses are now in Manila.

The Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management (DIDM) had earlier recommended the relief of Baluyot and Ramoneda, pending the outcome of its probe into the alleged execution of Kadil Manalasal, Nasser Matalam and Mohamad Ronie Sapal.

Director General Leandro Mendoza, chief of the Philippine National Police, ordered the relief of Ramoneda, and recommended that Baluyot, Ramoneda and other policemen face summary dismissal proceedings for grave misconduct.

Manalasal, Matalam and Sapal were killed reportedly during a shootout with policemen along the national highway in West Patadon, Matalam.

But SPO3 Ricardo Pacete, SPO1 Ericardo Romero and PO1 Christopher Coronado, who were manning a detachment at the scene, said policemen fired at the three men after making them leave a vehicle and removing their handcuffs. They said Ramoneda also fired at the fallen men. Baluyot, who arrived a few minutes later, fired at the victims with an M-16 rifle, the three witnesses said in their affidavits submitted to the DIDM.

Ramoneda and Baluyot have denied the allegations.

GMA to preside over CARP fete

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo will preside at a national convention to mark the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program's 14th anniversary tomorrow.

The two-day convention, to be held at the Expo Pilipino in Clark Field, Angeles City, will bring together stakeholders from 79 provinces in a dialogue-consultation to thresh out agrarian reform issues.

Among the participants are landowners, farmers, real estate developers, loan institutions, non-governmental and people's organizations, private companies, regional officials of the Department of Agrarian Reform and local government officials.

"This is the first time that DAR is tapping all stakeholders and even businessmen to market farmers' products and extend training on agriculture and effective management of cooperatives," Agrarian Secretary Hernani Braganza said.

He said DAR's primary concern is to bringing about a harmonious relationship with stakeholders to enable the department achieve its objective of equitable wealth distribution in the countryside.

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Solons call for truce on rescue fault-finding

By Juliet Labog-Javellana, Cynthia D. Balana and Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

LAWMAKERS yesterday proposed a moratorium on blame-tossing over the deaths of hostages Martin Burnham and Ediborah Yap but were virtually one in demanding that the military swiftly put an end to the Abu Sayyaf.

Bukidnon Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri, chair of the House committee on legislative franchises, said there should be a "ceasefire on fault-finding."

"Let's capture them first because their leaders are still out there, they can still wreak havoc. Maybe we can determine if there were tactical lapses but let's do that later. For the moment, let us give our boys 100-percent support," Zubiri said.

"As a Mindanaoan, I feel the damage that the Abu Sayyaf inflicted on the island. Not only has it put us to shame, it also weakened our economy significantly. Now we must close ranks to put an end to the Abu Sayyaf scourge," he added.

Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, who now heads the Senate committee on defense, sounded a similar theme in a radio interview in Cebu City. He cautioned the public against blaming the military for the deaths of Burnham and Yap "because no one really knew what happened except Burnham's wife, Gracia."

Burnham and Yap were killed Friday afternoon in the course of military operations against the Abu Sayyaf in the hinterlands of Zamboanga. Another hostage, Gracia Burnham, was wounded in the leg and later declared out of danger after being rescued.

Debriefing

Biazon suggested that Gracia undergo debriefing after she had recovered from her wound and the trauma of losing her husband.

He said it was not good to blame the military, noting that criticism could cause demoralization as operations against the bandits continued.

But opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson, now in the clutch of a Senate investigation on charges of keeping secret bank accounts in the US, could not restrain himself from assailing the administration. He said he was holding President Macapagal-Arroyo accountable to the people for the untimely death of the hostages.

"Didn't she order the Armed Forces of the Philippines to shoot the kidnappers first and worry about the victims later? Remember she gave those marching orders after the rescue of Italian priest Guiseppe Peirantoni two months ago," Lacson said.

Lacson, former national police chief, said the safety of the victim should be the first concern during a rescue operation.

"It's tragic. It's saddening, but these things are bound to happen when the commander-in-chief issues such orders," he said.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel expressed kinder words. He said the death of the hostages was both unfortunate and shocking because the rescue operation stretched over a year due to the military's desire not to endanger the lives of the remaining hostages.

Bunch of bandits

"The death of Martin and Ediborah has only reinforced our belief that the Abu Sayyaf is but a bunch of bandits who knows no bounds in sowing fear and chaos among our people," he said.

Pimentel also asked the military to explain why the Abu Sayyaf and its hostages were able to flee Basilan and slip into the Zamboanga peninsula despite a naval blockade.

"This also clearly indicates a failure of intelligence. That is the problem when the attention of the intelligence arm of the military is diverted to activities which can be hardly justified," he said.

Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay Jr., chair of the House defense committee, said there might be a need to determine whether Burnham and Yap died from friendly fire or were killed by the Abu Sayyaf.

But he said he was not inclined to initiate an inquiry.

"I don't think the Scout Rangers will fire at the hostages. I think there is no need to investigate because Gracia is alive and she can tell the story," Pichay said.

Pichay said the Scout Rangers, who led the rescue operation, should be congratulated.

Rangers' shining moment

"It was raining and the Abu Sayyaf was very slippery. In spite of that, the Scout Rangers did a good job. Of course, we lament that Martin and Ediborah were killed but we should be grateful that Gracia is alive," Pichay said.

"This should pave the way for a total war against the Abu Sayyaf. There is no more hindrance to eliminating these terrorists," he said.

Abus were preparing to free hostages, says Chavit

By Leoncio Balbin Jr.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

VIGAN CITY—Former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson yesterday said the Abu Sayyaf took its hostages to the Zamboanga peninsula in preparation for their release.

Singson told the INQUIRER in a phone interview that the Abu Sayyaf, specifically its spokesperson Abu Sabaya, had contacted him regarding the release of American missionaries Martin and Gracia Burnham and Filipino nurse Ediborah Yap.

He said he and Sabaya talked in mid-May and the latter assured him that the hostages would be freed at the end of May or the first week of June, and in Zamboanga, not in Basilan.

According to Singson, the Abu Sayyaf chose Zamboanga because the group feared that a possible encounter with various "lost commands" in Basilan could jeopardize the release.

Singson admitted that he kept this information from the military and President Macapagal-Arroyo "because I was not sure whether the Abu Sayyaf was serious in its pronouncements."

He said he became convinced that the bandits were determined to release the hostages when he learned that they had left Basilan for Zamboanga.

Singson pointed out that it was the bandits who initiated talks on the hostages' release when they called him through his mobile phone.

He said his phone number became well known after it was publicized in 2000, at the height of the Senate committee hearings on the alleged involvement of then President Joseph Estrada in *jueteng* and tobacco tax payoffs.

Singson said Sabaya admitted to him that the group was having a hard time moving because of the relentless military operations.

He stressed that the Abu Sayyaf did not demand the payment of ransom but merely asked him to facilitate the grant of livelihood assistance to Muslim communities in Mindanao.

He said he had requested the Technology and Livelihood Resource Center to consider the matter.

"There was no ransom demand because I am not authorized to negotiate for it, and the government is firm in its no-ransom policy," he said.

Singson said that because of Yap's death, it was imperative to facilitate the extension of educational and livelihood assistance to her family.

"I have asked my aides to look for the children so we can arrange it," he said.

US spy gear traced Abu, hostage to Zambo

ZAMBOANGA—US surveillance equipment brought in for Balikatan 02-1 played a crucial role in ending the yearlong hostage crisis, according to Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Teodosio.

"The surveillance equipment of the Americans was very instrumental in locating where the Abu Sayyaf was," Teodosio told The Associated Press Friday. "Although the Americans were not directly involved in the encounter, the task of locating (the bandit group and its hostages) and exactly pinning where they were was made possible by the assistance of our American friends."

Teodosio, the Filipino co-director of the Balikatan, offered no specifics. But the US contingent has flown Orion P3 surveillance planes and unmanned reconnaissance aircraft over the Abu Sayyaf stronghold of Basilan in the course of the Philippine military's search for hostages Martin and Gracia Burnham and Ediborah Yap.

The hostages were found in Zamboanga del Norte province, about 60 kilometers away.

A Philippine military source said the US surveillance equipment first detected the "unusual" movement of boats from Basilan to Zamboanga del Norte several weeks ago. Ground troops later confirmed the Abu Sayyaf's presence.

Elite forces including Philippine Marine reconnaissance units, Army Scout Rangers and US-trained Light Reaction Companies were secretly deployed to the area and pursued the bandits relentlessly until Friday's clash in a rain-drenched jungle, the source said. *AP*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, June 9, 2002
10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Hos 6:3-6

In their affliction, people will say, "Let us strive to know Yahweh.
His coming is as certain as the dawn;
his judgment will burst forth like the light;
he will come to us as showers come,
like spring rain that waters the earth."
O Ephraim, what shall I do with you?
O Judah, how shall I deal with you?
This love of yours is like morning mist,
like morning dew that quickly disappears.
This is why I smote you through the prophets,
and have slain you by the words of my mouth.
For it is love that I desire, not sacrifice;
it is knowledge of God, not burnt offerings.

2nd Reading: Rom 4:18-25

Brothers and sisters, Abraham believed and hoped against all expectation, thus becoming father of many nations, as he had been told: *See how many will be your descendants.* He did not doubt although his body could no longer give life – he was about a hundred years old – and in spite of his wife Sarah being unable to have children. He did not doubt nor did he distrust the promise of God, and by being strong in faith, he gave glory to God: he was convinced that He who had given the promise had power to fulfill it.

This was taken into account for him to attain righteousness. *This was taken into account:* these words of Scripture are not only for him, but for us, too, because we believe in Him who raised Jesus, our Lord, from among the dead, he who was delivered for our sins and raised to life for us to receive true righteousness.

Gospel: Mt 9:9-13

As Jesus moved on from there, he saw a man named Matthew at his seat in the custom-house, and he said to him, "Follow me." And Matthew got up and followed him. Now it happened, while Jesus was at table in Matthew's house, many tax collectors and other sinners joined Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this they said to his disciples, "Why is it that your master eats with those sinners and tax collectors?"

When Jesus heard this he said, "Healthy people do not need a doctor, but sick people do. Go and find out what this means: *What I want is mercy, not sacrifice. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.*"

Commentary

Martin was my student for three years in high school. He grew up without any religion as it was common for families in Macau not to believe in any religion, except for the traditional ancestor veneration of the Chinese. Yet, Martin was not ordinary – and his friends and classmates also saw this for they had always regarded him with respect as one who had moral authority.

Then, when he went to college, he finally decided to be baptized Catholic. When I asked him about the reason for his decision, he told me that he had always believed that there was God, and to show not only his belief but his love for the one he believed in, then he had to publicly proclaim this belief. And he saw that baptism was the way to do this.

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Pakistan downs Indian spy plane

From page A1

have been trying to defuse.

Media were escorted to the wreckage, badly charred and still smoking, in a sugarcane field 15 kilometers inside Pakistani air space in the village of Dogran Kalan, 40 km from Lahore, the country's second largest city.

Not much was left of the aircraft, but officials showed off the camera that they said had been aboard.

The incident occurred at around 11 p.m. Friday night (1700 GMT), hours after a US envoy said the climate appeared to be cooling between India and Pakistan. The two countries have amassed a million troops along their common frontier because of their latest confrontation over the disputed region of Kashmir.

"Penetration of the Indian airplane into our air space can only enhance the dangers existing in the presence of forces on both sides of the Line of Control," Foreign Minister Abdul Sattar said Saturday. "In a situation like this, responsible states must exercise utmost care to ensure that no provocations are made which might lead to escalation."

Pakistan formally lodged a protest with India about the incident, summoning a representative from the Indian High Commission, or embassy, to express "deep concern and strong protest on the deliberate violation of Pakistan's air space," the Foreign Office said.

Chief government spokesman Maj. Gen. Rashid Quereshi earlier said the incident was the latest example of India's "complete disregard" for "international norms" and repeated Pakistan's contention that it wants a reduction of tensions "but if Indian aggression is launched, Pakistan will defend itself."

In New Delhi, an Indian government official confirmed the incident.

"An unmanned aerial vehicle on a routine flight lost contact at about 2300 hours on June 7, 2002," the Indian Defense Ministry said in a statement. "In the present state of deployment of armed forces, UAV missions from either side are a routine feature." *AP*

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Hypocrisy

EDITORIAL

LAST week's news was weighed down by that hostage-taking incident in Pasay City, the one where the authorities flouted the rules, the scene degenerated into a circus and the hostage-taker babbled incoherently on live television. We are talking, of course, about the coup in the Senate. When opposition senators decided to force the issue of a "new majority" during the last week of the first regular session of the 12th Congress, they effectively held both the legislature and key legislation hostage.

Unlike the hostage drama which led to the death of 4-year-old Dexter Balala on May 31, however, the Senate coup of June 3 left the hostage-taker alive and unrepentant.

Sen. John Osmeña, whose defection to the opposition started the circus, struck the note of political self-righteousness right from the start. He said last Monday that he decided to leave the administration coalition he joined only last year because it had failed "to exercise its constitutional role of check and balance and to protect the tradition of independence of the Senate."

This is the same senator who, together with Sen. Teresa Aquino-Oreta, accepted a P1-million "*balato*" from then President Joseph Estrada, after another particularly lucky day at the mahjong table; the same senator who decried the presence of media in the Estrada impeachment trial, and later voted to keep the second Jose Velarde envelope unopened. These are acts of subservience to Malacañang that will forever stain, not only the Osmeña name, but that of the Senate. What right does Osmeña have now to lecture the country on independence of mind?

Sen. Blas Ople, whom opposition senators elected Senate president pro tempore, is another lawmaker whose definition of independence varies according to who sits in Malacañang. He was labor secretary and chief apologist for the Marcos regime in the United States in 1986 when the dictatorship came crashing down. He became Senate president in 1998 only when he begged Estrada to force Sen. Franklin Drilon to agree to a term-sharing arrangement. In 2001, he voted—against the interests of the nation—to block the opening of the second Velarde envelope. Is it any wonder, then, that his orotund pledges of independence ring hollow?

Sen. Edgardo Angara, the de facto leader of the opposition, trumpeted the events last week as a triumph of democracy. "This week has been a defining week for us here, because it will rouse a slumbering and compromised Senate. We are committed to making the Senate work for our nation," Angara said on Thursday.

Some definition did take place, but it was against a background of hypocrisy. It bears keeping in mind that the coup actually stopped the legislative mill instead of speeding it up. To keep up appearances, the opposition passed an absentee voting bill, which would grant the central democratic franchise—one man, one vote—to some seven million Filipinos abroad. But because the coup had caused the adjournment of the House of Representatives, the passage was sheer hypocrisy, a shameless attempt to score political points. Does Angara, who called the passage historic, think overseas Filipinos can't see through the subterfuge? The bill will have to be refiled once Congress begins its second regular session on July 22.

None of this is to say that the Macapagal administration did not see the crisis coming. Any legislative arrangement that depends on the whims of the capricious Osmeña is a ticking time bomb. Thus, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and her legislative liaison officer, Gabriel Claudio, share the blame for lighting the fuse. But the opposition senators refuse to acknowledge the key political fact: while they may have the advantage in numbers, the administration coalition has the advantage in time.

Would it have killed the 12 opposition senators to wait until July, before moving to reorganize the Senate? No. Why did they do it then? The real answer lies, not in any of the many statements from the "new majority" or their rivals, but in one characteristic outburst from opposition Rep. Didagen Dilangalen. When the House adjourned sine die on Tuesday, a vocal minority tried to stop the proceedings. When the sound system was turned off, an irate Dilangalen rushed to the sound booth and shouted to the technicians inside: "Who put it off? I will destroy that if you don't turn it back on."

We hear you. Loud and clear.

Stalemate in the Senate

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE PRESENT impasse in Congress calls to mind two Supreme Court decisions that I reported in this column four years ago regarding a similar "constitutional crisis." The first is Avelino v. Cuenco, 83 Phil. 17, and the second is Guevara v. Inocentes, 16 SCRA 379. Unless rejected and replaced, these are judicial precedents that can decide the questions now being debated among our legislators.

The facts of the present conflict are briefly recalled. On June 3, Senate President Franklin M. Drilon, sensing a power take-over by the erstwhile minority now bolstered by the defection of Sen. John Osmeña from the majority, abruptly adjourned the Senate *sine die*. The 12 members of the opposition, however, continued the session and reorganized the chamber, but without replacing Drilon. Eleven members stayed away. Sen. Ramon Revilla, who is in the United States undergoing medical treatment, declared he would remain with the administration camp, thus dividing the Senate equally.

Drilon claims the session held by the opposition senators is invalid because he had earlier adjourned the Senate *sine die* for lack of a quorum; moreover, there are only 12 of them and they do not constitute a majority of the 24-member Senate. The other camp holds that Drilon's act was illegal because of a previous Senate resolution calling for their adjournment on June 6. Besides, the quorum should be reckoned on the basis of only the 23 senators in the Philippines, excluding Senator Revilla, who is in the United States and outside our jurisdiction.

On June 4, the House of Representatives, in support of the Drilon senators, also adjourned *sine die* over the protests of the 19 opposition members. Like their party colleagues in the Senate, 14 of them held their own session in the absence of the other 200 plus members.

The opposition senators rely on the Avelino Case to support their stand on the question of quorum. In 1949, Sen. Lorenzo M. Tañada was scheduled to deliver a privileged speech against Senate President Jose Avelino who, taking advantage of a commotion in the gallery, adjourned the session and walked out with his 10 followers. Twelve senators remained and continued what the press later called a rump session. They ousted Avelino as Senate president and replaced him with Sen. Mariano Jesus Cuenco as acting president.

Avelino immediately filed *quo warranto* proceedings against Cuenco, invoking as his principal argument the lack of a quorum during the rump session. The Supreme Court initially dismissed the petition on the ground of separation of powers, but after an outraged public reaction, backed down. While still insisting on its lack of jurisdiction, it nevertheless effectively ruled on the motion for reconsideration in favor of the respondent.

On the assumption that the case was justiciable, the Supreme Court unanimously held that the rump session was a continuation of the original session, with four of the justices adding that the 12 senators constituted a majority and therefore a quorum of the 23 senators who were then in the Philippines. Sen. Tomas Confesor, the 24th member, was not counted because he was then in the United States and, like Senator Revilla in the current case, outside our jurisdiction.

This case might favor the opposition group, but the Guevara Case could support the administration senators.

In 1966, the Senate adjourned *sine die* on Jan. 22, but the House of Representatives continued its session beyond that date, thus reviving the question raised but not resolved when a similar incident happened in 1954. Its ruling having been invoked this time, the Supreme Court held that the *sine die* adjournment of the Senate had the automatic effect of adjourning the House of Representatives as well and, consequently, of the whole Congress.

"The House without the Senate, which had adjourned *sine die*, is not 'Congress,'" said the high tribunal. "Neither the House nor the Senate can hold session independently of the other in the same manner as neither can transact legislative business after the adjournment of the other." The vote was 8-1, with two justices not taking part.

In my opinion, this second case is controlling unless the Supreme Court reverses it. Even if Drilon's adjournment of the Senate on June 3 was void for whatever reason, the adjournment of the House of Representatives on June 5, which was undoubtedly valid, had the automatic effect of adjourning the Senate also. The opposition senators may argue that their acts before the House adjourned were valid but they'll have to show that Drilon's earlier adjournment was inoperative.

Between now and July 22, when Congress resumes its session, many things can and will surely happen. Drilon will still be the Senate president and will remain so unless the opposition senators enlist at least one more vote to depose him. This is improbable; what is likely is the *volte face* of some of their group, probably those seeking reelection on the administration ticket. Given a choice, a politician would rather be with the majority and all its perquisites than with a measly opposition with unsavory and possibly even criminal members.

TRAEH DERCAS

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

CAN you figure out the title of this column? Do you recognize the words? No? Try reading it in reverse from right to left, and then you've got it: Sacred Heart!

* * *

The reason we cannot see or recognize the Sacred Heart is that our priorities are inverted. Today, on the solemnity of the Sacred Heart we are reminded again that it is not to the wise and the learned but to the childlike that the kingdom of God is revealed (Mt 9:9-13). Here, Jesus underlines the value of the heart. A child sees with the heart. We adults who claim to be wise and learned must not belittle the heart or scorn matters of the heart.

If you still insist on so-called adult wisdom and know-how, think of what happened in a recent hostage-rescue situation wherein an innocent child died. Adult solutions often lead to more complications.

* * *

How is your heart? Do you still have a heart? Do you still recognize your heart? Are you all head and numbers, pocket and functions? We must go back to the heart if we are to live peaceful and meaningful lives. If you are living a fast, empty, complicated and stressful life, maybe it is because you are forgetting, negating and denying the heart and matters of the heart.

Go back to your heart and there find your peace. Go back to your heart and find your God. He chose to relate with us not with His sacred head, or with His sacred hand, but with His Sacred Heart!

* * *

We started this column with a puzzle, so let's try another one. Without rearranging, removing, or adding words, put the necessary punctuation marks in the following sentence so that it makes sense: What we can can we can what we can not we do not. (The answer is farther below, but try working on it first.)

* * *

The puzzle revolves around the word "can." We are so canned on the meaning of this word only in the sense of "being able." And so, try as we may, the puzzle cannot be solved as long as we insist on our complicated canned wisdom. There is in fact a very simple meaning of the word "can," which is "to package." The puzzle is an advertisement of a packing or canning factory which boasts simply: "What we can can, we can, what we can not, we do not." Very simple, *no*? However, our complicated adult wisdom oftentimes blocks us from seeing what is so simple and so true.

* * *

There are people who have airtight canned hearts into which no one can go in and from where nothing goes out. A canned heart doesn't get hurt, but a canned heart doesn't get loved either. It is a well-preserved heart. Inside a canned heart, there are no disturbances, no crises, no movements, no life, no love. And lots of preservatives.

Do you have a canned heart so full of toxic preservatives? To remove the preservatives, what you need is *lavatiba* (enema) to flush out all the hurts, pride, guilt and filth all stored up within it. The invitation of Jesus is precisely just that: "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

* * *

Canned heart? Yes, there are three sins we often commit against the heart: when we shut out God from our hearts; when we hold back our hearts from others; when we burden our own hearts with unnecessary loads and useless baggage.

At any rate, humility is the can opener that is needed to open the hardest and the canniest of hearts. It is humility that makes us realize that we need God and therefore must open our hearts to Him. It is humility that will lead us to reach out to others' hearts.

Finally, it is humility that will make us trust in God more, and less in ourselves. Any change, any conversion, any renewal will have to start with humility. You can't go wrong with humility.

Is there anything burdening you right now? Do you have any problem with your relationship with God, with others, or with yourself? Humility is the can opener, the key.

* * *

Wanted: Public servants with a heart. *Kawawa na ang Pilipino. Kawawa na ang Pilipinas.* We need principled statesmen and women who work for the good of the nation, not heartless politicians who work for the next election. Amen.

* * *

It's back to school once again. We salute first all the students who have to say goodbye to summer and brave the traffic and tremendous schoolwork once again. Likewise, we salute the mothers, the *yayas*, the drivers, the teachers who do a lot of hard work and make a lot of sacrifices in aid of education. *Saludo po kami sa inyo!*

May we produce students who not only have good heads, but good hearts as well.

* * *

Advanced Happy Father's Day! Fathers, don't forget the heart. Remember you are not all work and power and strength. You too, should be warmth, goodness and love.

To my fellow Fathers, let's move on. May these days of judgment, persecution and purification humble us and lead us to become better persons. May our hearts become more like the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mama Mary's Immaculate Heart.

* * *

A MOMENT WITH THE LORD:

Lord, cleanse and bless my heart so that it may become more like your Sacred Heart. Amen.

The 'first' school day for teacher

COMMENTARY

Asuncion David Maramba

AGAINST all odds, the Basic Education Curriculum (BEC) rolls off this month. But surely, it will be regularly evaluated throughout this "nationwide pilot year," with what we hope is an effective and decipherable instrument of evaluation. Surely, adjustments will be made. After "16 years of study" and a "seven-year consultation," can we blame Education Secretary Raul Roco for wanting to get it off the ground?

Unfortunately what looks good on paper in the macro view can look forbidding in practice in its micro setting. Unless bridged, there is a yawning gap between planning sessions and a classroom in Sampaloc.

The trimming alone of the basic curriculum to five subject areas is already a major feat. Our country is in such dire need of so many factors in its development that there seems to be no end to appeals to include: taxation, election, ecology, computers, nationalism, culture, values, drugs, etc.—and not as extras but as survival needs. Many believe our children must learn or be taught so much more or perish. Getting out of an overcrowded curriculum and putting a stop to more of the same is an accomplishment.

Perhaps we should have been content with the tightening of our curriculum—one step at a time. For a year or so, we could have studied how the five areas worked out with special attention to the contentious Makabayan mix. Ought not the Social Studies-History-Civics-Geography cluster (the best agents for love of country, incidentally) be pulled out to make another subject area?

But we have chosen to simultaneously take the second and giant step, the Integrative Approach, which is absolutely daunting at this point. Add that to the hackles raised by Makabayan and a two-faced problem of content and method looms before us.

A few points:

What is the scope of the integration? Does it cover all the elementary and high school levels? Will all the subjects be taught that way? Or only the Makabayan components? Or clusters of related subjects? Reports have given the impression of a hodge-podge.

Psychologists may know better, but wouldn't elementary pupils still need clear-cut subjects, or a sense of structure or organization, before weaving in and out of different disciplines? Wouldn't your 7 to 10-year-old child or *apo* get all confused?

That the entire curriculum will be integrated is mind-boggling, except perhaps for values education which can comfortably penetrate all areas. That even only the Makabayan components will be integrated is still mind-boggling, for this fruit salad may not blend.

But the integration of clusters of related subjects makes sense and can be very achievable. I'm sure the planners saw that there are logical combinations and improbable ones. Within Makabayan, quantifiable skills subjects like Technology, Home Economics, Practical Arts, Livelihood Education and Physical Education naturally come together. So do qualitative subjects like Culture, Arts and Music, Values, Religion.

The second point is the name "Makabayan" and the idea behind it. The matter reminds me of a lovers' quarrel I have had with books or courses that are built around one motif or theme or value, and then presented or taught as if it is the most important or the only theme informing the entire country in its entire history.

"Love of country" is the avowed "unifying principle" of the new curriculum. A sense of nationhood may indeed be a most compelling need in our nationalism-starved youth who would be American or anything else but Filipino. But equally compelling are so many needs in this our country. Somebody could come forward and say that the name should be "Makatao" or "Makadiyos" and he could be right too. To design the entire curriculum around "love of country" seems almost insular. Love of country, I maintain, will naturally flow from history, culture, literature, etc. well rendered and well taught. Are our children so dense that they have to be constantly and frontally reminded?

Finally it cannot be over-emphasized enough that the teacher is the heart and soul of Integration. She it is who will establish interconnections and make all the difference between a mish-mash and an enriching integration. One cannot begin to realize how much is demanded of her in terms of experience, reading, association, etc.

An elementary teacher sat beside me in a doctor's office, completely bewildered as to how she could handle Integration. "For example", she said, " if my lesson in Filipino is *panghalip,* I have to look for *panghalip* in the Civic book and in the other subjects. *Sana,* 'they' would make lesson plans and give them to us."

Can Integration in fact be lesson-planned without becoming mechanical and forced? For there are so many variations to Integration as there are "teachers who can"; as there is alas, very little that can be squeezed out of "teachers who can't." Regardless, I salute every teacher who will walk into a classroom this June.

Asuncion David Maramba is a retired professor, book editor and occasional journalist.

* * *

Comments to marda@info.com.ph; fax 8210659

When priests commit suicide

COMMENTARY

Fr. Ferdinand R.S. Santos, Ph.D.

JOHN was my fellow student at the University of Louvain in Belgium. We lived across the hall from each other at the American College, a residence for students from the United States. He was studying theology, and I was doing philosophy. He was witty, friendly and had a good sense of humor. He worked hard on his degree, went out to enjoy himself a bit on Friday nights like all the other students, and by all accounts was your normal, average guy.

On the first weekend of November 1995, John disappeared. I remember talking to him earlier, and he said something about going to Ireland for a few days. Two weeks later, his body was found in the nearby woods. He had apparently slashed his wrists.

It was a shock for the whole university. But for those of us who knew and lived with John, the horror was even greater. He was a Catholic priest, and we were residents of a Roman Catholic seminary. I myself was three years away from ordination then. I couldn't remember a time when I felt more uncertain about the vocation I was pursuing.

A day after the news broke out, the media were literally banging on our door to get a statement from anyone. We even got phone calls from CNN looking for someone who would talk. But the seminary seemed overcome by such a depressing atmosphere, and no one wanted to discuss the event, except perhaps in hushed tones.

A few days later, our horror was compounded when we learned that John had been accused of molesting a child in his diocese in the United States, and that the real reason he had been sent by his bishop abroad was to avoid scandal. Learning perhaps that the story of his misconduct was about to explode back home, John chose to end it all by taking his own life.

In recent weeks, two other priests in the United States have taken their lives after charges of sexual misconduct surfaced. Fr. Dan Rooney from Cleveland, Ohio, was found in his car in a parking lot with a gunshot wound in his head and Fr. Alfred Bietighofer of Bridgeport, Connecticut, was found hanging from the ceiling of his hospital room.

How does one make sense of all this? It's hard enough to find answers when ordinary people kill themselves. When a priest takes his own life, it's the questions themselves that seem hard to come by.

Much has been said in recent months of the sexual misconduct of priests. Perhaps a little too much. Many, including the policymakers of the Church, seem to be missing what could very well be the most important point in all this. The present sexual abuse scandal is merely the tip of the iceberg. It's but the symptom of a larger disease, not the disease itself. Granted it is a serious problem that needs to be addressed, the fact remains that it's an indicator of two far-reaching crises that have slowly been engulfing the Catholic Church: a crisis of the identity among its priests, and a crisis of leadership and authority in the hierarchy.

The "identity crisis" that has eaten up the priesthood over the last two decades is part of the unfinished business of reform that began with the Second Vatican Council. We're not talking about sexual identity here. We're talking about "priestly identity"—what makes a priest what he is, what makes a young man want to become a priest. Much of this identity has been eroded in recent years. Vatican II renewed the roles of the bishops and lay people. Priests have largely been left to fend for themselves, to define who they are through trial and error. The Church has to do a better job at taking care of its "foot soldiers."

The sexual acting out of a tiny portion of the clergy, together with a host of other problems dogging them, also represents the unpaid bills of the Church's reform movement that has stalled in the absence of sincere dialogue between its conservative and progressive elements. While these two tendencies try to cancel each other out, the priesthood suffers, and the laity suffers as a result. How many American classmates of mine have called over the last few days to tell me how deeply hurt their parishioners have been.

This hurt has already exploded into violence. Only last month, Fr. Maurice Blackwell was shot in Baltimore by a young man he had allegedly molested years ago and to whom he refused to apologize. The bishop apologized, but not after the harm had been done. The Church has to do a better job at taking care of its flock.

Sexual misconduct is a grave problem, and the leaders of the Church are trying to address it properly. But they shouldn't fall into the trap of reducing the present crisis to that alone. To do so would not only be to miss the opportunity to see that a wider reformation of the Church is needed, but also to assure that the same problem will explode again in the future. "Zero tolerance," strong and attractive as that idea may be, is not the only solution. Nor are greater control, greater discipline, or better screening of candidates to the priesthood. These are knee-jerk reactions that could make it appear as if the present crisis has been resolved. Unless the Church looks deeper into itself, it will neither see nor acknowledge that the problem lies with the very way it has allowed the priestly identity to deteriorate, either because of too much laxity in thought and practice, or too much nostalgia for a clerical past that will never return. Denial of this deeper crisis will assure that the problems will recur.

But how is this to happen when the very policymakers are at times the very stumbling blocks to reform? One of the things I find rather amusing about all the discussions on clergy sexual misconduct here in our country is that very little mention is made of the fact that while American Catholics are angry at the sexual abuse of priests, they are even more livid at the non-accountability and irresponsibility displayed by their bishops who completely mishandled the cases by either denying their existence, or erecting structures of secrecy and deceit that allowed offenders to be moved from one assignment to another, thereby giving them, the chance to continue their predatory activities.

The crisis of priestly identity, together with many other problems besetting the Church, is closely tied up with a crisis of leadership and authority. While Filipino Catholics are lucky that most of their bishops are men of integrity, the case is not the same everywhere. While there may be sincere leaders in the Church, there are also many who are "career-oriented" and bent on protecting the image of the institution they believe they represent than protecting their flocks.

The Bible makes a distinction between shepherds and hirelings. Shepherds do not run away at the sight of wolves; they die protecting their sheep. Hirelings only know how to protect their interests; theirs is the language of upward mobility.

In a recent interview, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, a high Vatican official, acknowledged that "careerism" is one of its biggest problems of the Church at the moment. The Church needs more leaders, fewer career individuals. Bishops need to protect their good priests and their lay people. They should not stick their heads in the sand or run like hirelings when wolves attack.

The author is a professor of philosophy and theology at the San Carlos Seminary and the Ateneo de Manila University.

Old Dr. Pastor's house

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

MARIAN Pastor Roces' instructions were clear enough. Once we spotted the "stupid lion" that stands at a crossroads leading to Batangas City, we should turn left and go down the road, then turn right at a one-way street. If we got lost, she said, then all we needed to do was to ask for the "old house of Dr. Pastor" and any self-respecting resident would be able to point it out to us.

Well, guess what, we got lost. We got past the lion marker (I was expecting something on the scale of the Kennon Road behemoth, but found a puny creature that one of us in the group mistook for a pig), but once we made the turn to the narrow road, we could hardly make out the house numbers. My driver was skeptical when I told him to stop and ask for the "*lumang bahay ni* Dr. Pastor," but he was suitably impressed when he returned, marveling that "the house is really well known around here."

We turned past a pair of tall iron gates and drove a hundred years into the past. The courtyard was paved with cobblestones and above loomed a sprawling *bahay na bato,* a great stairway just visible past an arched doorway guarded by—you guessed it—a pair of roaring lions.

Making my way up the worn wooden steps, gleaming with the patina of age and use, I felt like a gauche visitor violating the serene dignity of this beautiful relic from the previous century. "Good morning and begging your pardon, is this the old house of Doctor Pastor?" I asked in my best Tagalog movie persona. The spell was broken by the loud laughter of my uncouth friends, who were already filling their plates with the Pastors' idea of a simple breakfast: *tsokolate eh,* fried rice, two kinds of native sausages, eggs sunny-side up, dried fish, *tocino* and fruits.

* * *

"MARIAN, no wonder you are who you are!" I exclaimed when our host settled down to join us for breakfast.

Marian is a true and dedicated student of Philippine history and culture. She works these days as a museum consultant (but mostly abroad), but any extended conversation with her will reveal the wide range of interests that drives this energetic woman. In discussions of our group, pagbabago, you can count on Marian to provide the historical, cultural and even anthropological perspective. It's a sensibility rooted in a keen awareness of the Filipino identity and the strands of many "identities" that have been woven into our being. I'd always wondered how Marian developed such a sensibility and now I knew how. It came from being born and growing up in this house.

As Marian tells it, toward the end of World War II, the retreating Japanese troops set the entire Batangas City on fire. All existing structures were razed, save for two or three homes, including the old Pastor residence. "My uncles had long fled to the mountains," Marian remembers, "and as they gazed down at the smoke rising from the city, they shed tears for this beloved house. Imagine their surprise when they finally made their way here to find it intact!"

* * *

BUILT in the 19th century, the old house began and survived as a "middle-class residence, with no roots in feudalism." Her grandfather, the respected "Doktor Pastor," built it for his growing family and used it as a clinic and even a lying-in hospital. It was also the site of social gatherings and meetings of prominent residents.

Testimony to the house's provenance is a bullet lodged in the heavy, solid doorjamb leading to the main sala. This is a failed assassin's bullet, after the assassin had charged up the stairs and fired at the visiting American Governor-General William Howard Taft, missing him and hitting the doorjamb instead. We joked that the man must have been an awful marksman, for it would have been next to impossible to miss the corpulent Taft.

Marian was born in this house, on a wood-and-cane bed that has witnessed the comings and goings of generations. When I said the house reminded me of my Lola's house in Pangasinan, where we siblings and cousins used to lay down mats in the sala and sleep in a long row, Marian smiled and said this was what her childhood memories are made of, too.

After breakfast, gathered round a marble-topped table that made us feel like a bunch of conspiring Katipuneros and Katipuneras, we went around the table and shared our hopes and dreams for the country, and the reasons we had made the "supreme sacrifice" of getting up at dawn so we could make it to Batangas in time for breakfast. Marian had the unfair advantage of an objective correlative at hand: the old house. It had survived the War and the even more dangerous vicissitudes of modernity and market forces, she said, because there was "none of that feudal stuff" to contend with. The old doctor's descendants, she said, had never thought of the house in terms of possession or ownership, but rather as a shared stewardship over a property of immense historical, cultural and familial significance.

* * *

SOMEDAY soon, I will write about the fruits of our discussions around the nest of antique tables, as well as of countless late-night meetings marked by great eating and boozing.

But for now, let me just tell you what we had for lunch: a native vegetable stew called "*langlang*" that's flavored with *bagoong Balayan*, steamed fish and roast pork, noodles and *leche flan*. Post-prandial entertainment was provided by Marian's uncles, Antonio on the grand piano, and Rafael, a trained tenor, filling the air with opera selections and classic Pinoy love songs.

Yes, it was worth getting up at 4 a.m. for. And yes, it was a day that placed everything we'd been doing in perspective.

We never really live just for the present. Our existence is a continuing tribute to the past, and a continual striving for a better future.

* * *

Comments to rjdavid@inquirer.com.ph

On the brink of a breakdown

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

COMING in the wake of a bungled hostage situation in Pasay City, the death of Martin Burnham and Ediborah Yap, two of the last three hostages held by the Abu Sayyaf, during a rescue operation will likely provoke mocking comparisons between Pasay policemen and Army Scout Rangers.

It is the worst time for such tragedies to happen, when our faith in the capacity of our law-and-order agencies to do their work and protect the public is at its lowest. The demoralization and cynicism we feel incite us to heckle and joke about politicians, policemen and soldiers rather than to understand and plan how we can better handle such situations in the future. In our despair, we tend to see incompetence, lack of training or sheer stupidity behind every botched job, forgetting that these are functions of the quality of our institutions.

The Pasay incident was totally inexcusable. The hostage-taker was a psychologically disturbed person. He was clearly reacting to hallucinations. The situation called for alertness and sensitivity on the part of the police so as to protect the victim while minimizing possible injury to the hostage-taker himself. Needless to say, the safety of the victim was paramount. The police acted indecisively. They followed no clear plan, and, worse, allowed kibitzers to intervene. They simply had no clue about what to do.

The case of the Basilan hostages was different. The military has been attempting to rescue them for over a year. The lives of many soldiers have been lost in the process. The government committed itself to a no-ransom policy, thus closing the avenue for any negotiation. The safe rescue of the hostages was from the start a primary consideration, but as Basilan became an official front in the global war against terrorism, the principal objective of the military increasingly became the pursuit and capture of these ruthless terrorists.

The relatives of the Burnham couple and of Yap knew that the hostages could be killed in the process. But part of the reason this incident dragged on in the first place was the overriding concern for the safety of the two American hostages. The Abu Sayyaf kidnappers were aware of this limitation and they fully exploited the fear they sowed. Until the last minute, they confidently awaited the payment of ransom.

The Army Scout Rangers who pursued the Abu Sayyaf through the jungles of Zamboanga del Norte appear to have acted resolutely and correctly. From the reports, one can glean that they were not at first completely certain that the armed group they had been tracking for a day was the Abu Sayyaf. They were in an area near a Moro Islamic Liberation Front camp. They became absolutely certain only two hours before the actual encounter and only after sighting the American hostages with the group. That was when they opened fire.

They could have waited for reinforcement. They could have stalled until they had surrounded the group and forced them to surrender. They did not do any of these because they were clear about their orders. They would take care not to hit the hostages, but their orders were to get the Abu Sayyaf. They would not wait for an ideal situation to arise. The last time they hesitated in Lamitan, the military was accused of allowing the bandits to escape in exchange for money.

It is very sad that Martin Burnham and Ediborah Yap did not emerge from this ordeal alive. The terrain must have been tough and the conditions extremely difficult. Marcia Burnham got hit in the crossfire, but fortunately the wound was not fatal and she was rescued. Several soldiers were seriously wounded, while four Abu Sayyaf members were killed. The notorious Abu Sabaya and Isnilo Hapilon sneaked away together with most of their members.

This is the first real encounter between the military and the main Abu Sayyaf group after the Lamitan hospital fiasco a year ago. The Filipino public has grown weary of the manner in which the government has been handling the hostage crisis. The entry of US Special Forces into Basilan, albeit supposedly in a non-combat role, served to reinforce the undeserved reputation of the Abu Sayyaf as a major terrorist group. No one could offer a convincing explanation why, despite the sophisticated equipment brought in by the US military and the number of soldiers searching for them, the exact location of the bandits and their hostages could not be pinpointed.

But this is not the time to look back to what actually happened. From here on, the military should focus on what it needs to do or what it should have set out to do after Libyan money secured the release of the Sipadan hostages. And that is, to finish off the remaining Abu Sayyaf before they can regroup, buy new equipment and weapons, and take a fresh set of hostages.

The whole of our society is going through a wrenching transition, and we simply cannot afford to be complacent. The problems of our military and police are but symptoms of the comprehensive failure of our social system to cope with the recurrent crises of our times. With the growing access of various criminal groups to modern technology and weapons, the risks and costs of system failure are greatly multiplied.

Now is the time to review the whole system and, more important, to execute the changes that are needed to repair its basic defects. The prospects of a society held hostage by a savage gang of postmodern bandits, or controlled by drug money, are real enough to make us weep over the silly games our leaders play while the nation totters on the brink of a breakdown.

* * *

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TALK of the TOWN

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Can the PNP redeem itself?

A RESCUE attempt that resulted in the death of a four year-old-boy and his hostage-taker in Pasay City on May 31 highlights the sorry state of law enforcement in the country. One of the five bullets that hit Dexter Balala, and not the 13 stab wounds inflicted by Diomedes Talbo, killed him, according to an autopsy conducted by the Southern Police District Crime Laboratory Office.

The filing of homicide charges against 21 policemen, the relief of the 341 members of Pasay City's police force and their retraining are seen as short-term measures to improve the image of the police.

Among the proposals to help the national police force redeem itself are the retraining and reorientation of all police personnel, overhauling of the curriculum of the Philippine National Police Academy and setting up of an independent Internal Affairs Section.

These may not be enough if the entire criminal justice system, which includes the courts, jails and administrative agencies, is not reformed.

ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA
PAGE DESIGN: ERNIE SAMBO

'The deterioration of the police is due to our society turning materialistic'

By Ret. Gen. Rogelio Pureza
Vice chair and executive officer, National Police Commission

THE POLICE have been perceived to be anti-people since the Spanish period. Colonial administrators used the Guardia Civil to quell all kinds of protest across the country.

When the Americans took over in the 1900s, they created the Philippine Constabulary to suppress the rebellion of the remnants of Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo's forces.

During World War II, the Japanese put up the Kempetai. Its purpose was to put down dissent in the country. After the War, the Philippine Constabulary was employed by then President Elpidio Quirino to crush the Huk rebellion. When Martial Law came, whenever there were demonstrations, the Metrocom was always there.

And so, the citizenry think the police are anti-people. They cannot reconcile the fact that there is law enforcement. The police are an instrument of the government to enforce its police power, for everyone to follow and obey the law. We are trying to counteract that by winning the hearts and minds of the people. That is why we have community relations, a community-oriented police system that we call "cops on the block."

The basic consideration is not to catch criminals but to prevent the commission of a crime and to protect life and property. Unfortunately, Philippine society is centered on accomplishments. It would appear that the media are partly to blame. The more criminals one catches or kills, the more applause one gets. That's not okay. What should be okay is when a policeman can make his area crime-free.

Our dream is to make policemen irrelevant to society, to ensure the safety of our loved ones, to make our streets safe to walk on at night.

Moral decadence

The deterioration of our police force is due to a confluence of factors. It is a result of Philippine society becoming more materialistic. We don't see the old Filipino values anymore. There is moral decadence if we put so much premium on wealth.

To solve this problem, we must start with ourselves. A Chinese proverb says a journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step. And so whatever we dream of, we must start with ourselves.

Our whole educational system needs to be rehashed. Good manners and right conduct are fast disappearing.

There should be structural change, too, in law enforcement to address the needs of Philippine society. For example, the recruitment of police belongs to the Philippine Public Safety College, a bureau under the Department of Interior and Local Government. Some agencies will have to be abolished and streamlined to make officials accountable for their actions. Agencies have the tendency to pass the buck when problems arise.

We are now coming up with standards for station commanders. The Philippine National Police is proposing adjustments to standards. And there is a continuing program to attain excellence.

But things like (the bungled rescue attempt) do happen. It's unfortunate that there are victims. Initially, I am inclined to think there were lapses of judgment on the part of the police personnel involved. In a hostage situation, you need to protect the hostage. That is foremost.

The second concern should be the apprehension and neutralization of the hostage taker. But the life of the hostage should never be compromised.

I don't think these were considered.

We in the Napolcom are trying to pinpoint where the mistakes are and who were responsible for those mistakes. Then we will zero in on criminal and administrative cases. There will be no arbitrary action from Napolcom and no whitewash.

In fairness to the PNP, the Pasay incident is an isolated case. It's really unfortunate. For the mistake of around 10 police, all 110,000 members of the PNP will suffer.

Retraining is a necessary step because the mistakes of some might be infectious. If the whole police force is to be retrained to avoid this, so be it.

I admit there is an overlapping of disciplinary functions in relation to the police. Our proposal is to make the PNP's Internal Affairs Service a division of the Napolcom so that it would be free from influence of PNP personnel. It will handle all cases involving acts of the police force inimical to society.

It will take a while for the PNP to recover the people's trust. We hope to recover, and we aspire to greater heights of service to the people.

(Interview by Alcuin Papa)

'Overhaul the justice system'

By Akbayan Rep. Etta P. Rosales
Chair, House committee on civil, political and human rights

DOES it have to take the tragic death of a four-year-old boy to drama-tize the incompetence, irresponsibility and ineptness of the PNP? Obviously, it does.

When a helpless child, in the hands of a disturbed man, cries for help from government and ends up being killed by policemen, then something must be terribly wrong with the entire system of law enforcement. Is it a question of competence, of stupidity, or of outright ignorance? Whether it is the ineptness of hitting the hostage while aiming at the target, or the timidity to take action against hecklers and meddlers, or to even isolate the incident from the crowd, what took place on May 31 highlighted the sorry state of law enforcement in the country.

While higher-ups in the police agency expressed indignation and suspended 21 policemen, they were quick to defend the PNP, saying that the incident was an isolated case.

We beg to disagree. The problem is not in the number of times policemen bungle their work in hostage crisis situations. (Although I can cite several hostage incidents bungled by the same police organization several years back.) The problem is in why it should even happen at all.

The death of the child could have been avoided if the police team performed as a highly disciplined and professional force led by an officer who knew how to give instructions and take decisive action.

To give policemen rigorous training on hostage crisis incidents (there was a three-week course recently taken by the team, we were told) is worthless if the same group is allowed to go drinking while on duty. I know for a fact that human rights seminars are held for policemen and human rights desks are set up in police stations. But all these are superfluous in light of how human rights are violated with impunity when police disperse rallies and strikes.

Private security

What lies at the core of the problem is the need to reorient the police agency as a protector of the rights of the public, rather than as a private security for the few who wield power in government and big business circles.

A historical view of the development of the police force from their role as Guardia Civil to the Philippine Constabulary and the Integrated National Police under Marcos's one-man rule to the present crop under the PNP shows how wielders of power have bribed policemen to protect mining and hacienda interests.

Unless this structure of relations, integral to the politics of patronage and payoffs, is corrected, we will always have policemen subservient to the whims of local politicians and lawmakers. It is from this sector of the political economy where they develop narrow loyalties that ultimately undermine public service and public interest. This system of relations corrupts policemen, some of whom end up as criminals.

I have always rooted for higher pay for our rank-and-file policemen and soldiers. Like public school teachers, they are expected to serve the community with meager pay and long hours of work. But if their pay cannot meet the basic needs of their families, they tend to seek other sources to augment their income.

Police reforms demand an overhaul in the system of relations between the policemen, the bureaucracy and the larger criminal justice system to which the police organization is merely a part. As an enforcer of the law, the police agency must be responsive and accountable to the community.

Ethical standards must be effectively enforced. This means prohibiting policemen from being used as private security guards of high government officials and businessmen. It also means punishing policemen and government officials if the policemen are used for private ends.

Code of conduct

The Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on Dec. 17, 1979, is a basic framework founded on human rights, which has been adopted at the domestic level by most democratic countries.

Perhaps, in this age of global cooperation, where crime and punishment are addressed more increasingly through international efforts, our law enforcers can anchor reforms on this perspective.

Radical reforms in the police organization become useless unless these permeate other institutions that make up the criminal justice system. Corruption in the courts, the jails and the administrative agencies have resulted in the delay of decisions for cases, or the indefinite detention of innocent victims, many of whom are poor.

As long as judges can be bought, wardens bribed and policemen corrupted, seminars and training will only serve as palliatives that will hardly make a dent in the enforcement of law and justice.

The PNP must make sure that it sees reforms within its ranks as part of a larger effort to improve the entire system of law enforcement. Apprehending officials, no matter how high their positions are, and ensuring that justice is meted out equitably and fairly to all and sundry must be the rule rather than the exception. Only then can there be redemption for the PNP.

'Retraining and reorientation for all'

By Sen. Robert Barbers
Former interior secretary and Manila policeman

"THE CREDIBILITY of the Philippine National Police rests basically on how well law enforcers perform their duties. The individual policeman who effectively does his duties is the best exponent in winning the respect of our people."

This is part of my message in the PNP Rules of Engagement handbook, which was issued during my incumbency as Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and as concurrent chair of Napolcom.

The PNP has struggled to base its programs and actions on statutes and laws. Any deviation from these has adverse implications on the gains earned by the PNP in its efforts to improve its image before the bar of public opinion.

Based on the footage aired by the media on the unfortunate incident, responding elements of the Pasay City Police overlooked the importance of adhering to the PNP's Rules of Engagement. The area was not cordoned off, there was no Crisis Management Task Group deployed at that time, many were able to talk to the suspect without clearance from the police, and there was no duly designated negotiator.

No ambulance

In addition, no ambulances with paramedics and fire trucks were around at the time. These are basic requisites in a hostage situation. The absence of even one element jeopardizes any rescue mission.

However, faultfinding will not bring Dexter Balala and hostage taker Diomedes Talbo back to life. If there is a necessity to charge and prosecute erring PNP elements in court for criminal offenses and administrative liabilities, let the law take its course. But the State should take care of its own, not by coddling offending PNP members but by seriously providing for their professional and other needs.

Let us remember that those in the field of law enforcement subject themselves to a wide array of risks daily. Not only are their lives at stake. Adverse public reaction can hound them forever. The State must also protect them from these hazards. There are ways to do this.

Self-reflection

The improvement of the PNP's image will come only after its leadership has embarked on altruistic self-reflection, introspection and resolution. Only after the officers of the PNP have accepted the fact that the organization has been remiss in taking care of the professional and career requirements of its general membership can full recovery be possible.

The PNP's failure in the Pasay City hostage-taking incident should be an eye-opener. The decision of the National Capital Region Police Office to relieve all officers and men of the Pasay City Police Office and to retain and reorient them appears to be a short-term solution. Retraining and reorientation in hostage situations must be for all, and must include other crisis situations such as natural calamities.

The PNP can still redeem itself from the quagmire of negative public opinion. It can still recover from the ills of its past actions. An examination of its policies, rules and regulations is necessary so that stringent guidelines on recruitment can be formulated and strict standards instituted on the operating procedures given the varied situations the PNP may face.

Accordingly, the curriculum of the Philippine National Police Academy and the syllabus and training program of the different training centers of the PNP should be overhauled if we are to exact efficiency and effectiveness from the ranks of new policemen. With the huge appropriations for the augmentation of PNP personnel this year and in the coming years, these can be implemented.

For emphasis, restraining and reorientation not only of the police personnel of the "offending" Pasay City Police Office but of all PNP officers and men is in order. We must take note of the fact that most of the best policemen in the PNP are concentrated in Metro Manila.

If we are to take this observation in toto side-by-side with the involvement of some personnel of the Pasay City Police Office in the bungled handling of the hostage situation, then policemen in the provinces could be much worse. Thus, the proposition for a continuing retraining and reorientation of all PNP personnel, officers and men is appropriate at this time.

Only then can recovery and redemption start.

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Musharraf: Threat of war 'minimal'

KUALA LUMPUR—Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has described the threat of war with India as "minimal" but called for flexibility to break the deadlock over Kashmir, a report said Saturday.

"I think the chance of war is minimal. I think leaders in both countries need to be sensible enough to work on the path of peace," he told Malaysia's New Straits Times in an interview in Islamabad.

"Nobody, no leader in Pakistan can put the Kashmir dispute on the sidelines. Every individual of Pakistan is concerned about Kashmir. We seek justice on Kashmir," the general said.

"We are not demanding anything unjust and the world must understand. But the only way we can solve this problem is through flexibility from stated positions on both sides."

The Himalayan territory of Kashmir, divided between India and Pakistan and claimed by both, has already sparked two of the rivals' three wars and is once again the focus of tension between the nuclear-armed countries.

India has demanded a crackdown following several attacks mounted by what it says are Pakistan-based militants in Kashmir and elsewhere in its territory.

The situation remained tense Saturday as Pakistan shot down a pilotless Indian spy plane which had allegedly entered its airspace.

Musharraf also told the Malaysian newspaper that he was ready to hand over day-to-day running of the government to the new prime minister after a general election planned for October.

The Army chief, who took power in a 1999 coup, dismissed suggestions that he was "interested in concentrating power within myself" but said there had to be unity in Pakistan's leadership.

"Without that unity, you cannot run a government effectively. There can't be two men sharing power, so the real power should be with the chief executive," he said.

"That is what I am going to shed in October. There will be a PM and I will shed this function of running the government which is the real power. What I will retain is the president's authority to make sure that the PM is governing well.

"I don't call that power. To oversee is the only power that I will have."

Musharraf, who named himself president in June last year, won another five years as head of state in a referendum in May. He has announced he will hold parliamentary elections over 7-11 October to restore democracy. *AFP*

MUSHARRAF

Creation of homeland dep't in US a daunting task

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush faces a daunting task creating a Department of Homeland Security, from settling conflicts between competing agencies and congressional committees to finding enough office space.

The day after announcing his ambitious homeland security plan, the president and his aides began the hard work of selling it to the powerful lawmakers and bureaucrats most resistant to change.

"This is going to be a tough battle because we're going to be stepping on some people's toes," Bush conceded on Friday, adding that "when you take power away from one person in Washington, it tends to make them nervous."

In a preview of the battle to come, state officials warned the changes could weaken efforts to safeguard the nation's food supply by focusing too narrowly on bioterrorism.

Under Bush's plan, resources for the new department would be drawn from more than 100 different government organizations.

It would have 170,000 employees and a $37-billion budget.

While Republicans and Democrats embraced the plan, they do not expect easy passage.

White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card warned lawmakers against making major changes. "It would be horrible if Congress took this recommendation and watered it down to something that wasn't going to protect the American people" he told public television's "NewsHour with Jim Lehrer."

But analysts questioned whether Bush's proposal itself would significantly improve the government's ability to protect Americans from terrorists.

"The real challenge is to create a sum that's greater than the parts," said Paul Light, vice president and director of government studies at the Brookings Institution. *Reuters*

Some Lockerbie families spurn Libya offer

WASHINGTON—Some families of the victims of the 1988 Lockerbie plane bomb want their lawyers to reject a $2.7 billion compensation offer from Libya that is conditional on sanctions being lifted, family members said on Friday.

Daniel Cohen, whose wife has also expressed outrage at the offer for the loss of their daughter Theodora, 20, said a "general unhappiness with the way the announced settlement has been structured" emerged at talks with a US diplomat.

"We have expressed that in various ways and everybody has pledged to go back to their lawyers and say 'Fix it. There are a lot of problems with this,'" Cohen said, adding that 20 to 25 of the 270 bereaved families attended the talks.

Five of the family members spoke to reporters as a group outside the State Department and agreed with Cohen's views.

"We're not the bad guys. There are no deals to be made here. This is about how they must comply and they must follow the UN Security Council resolutions," Kathleen Flynn, whose 21-year-old son died in the bombing, told reporters.

The relatives spoke after meeting Assistant Secretary of State William Burns, who met Libyan and British officials in London on Thursday to discuss whether Libya will comply with UN obligations and accept liability for the bombing.

Most of the 259 people killed on board Pan Am Flight 103 were Americans but 11 residents of the Scottish town of Lockerbie were also killed.

A Libyan agent has been convicted in the attack but his government has not taken responsibility for it, a condition for sanctions imposed on Libya after the bombing to be lifted, along with paying compensation and renouncing terrorism. *Reuters*

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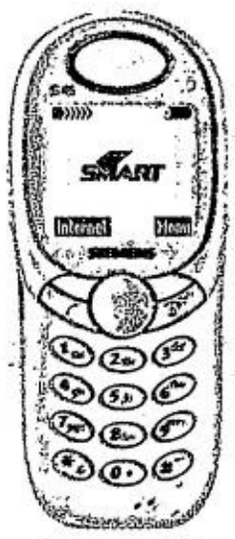

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Australia Catholic apologizes for abuse

SYDNEY—Australia's Catholic Church apologized on Saturday for past sexual abuse by members of the clergy while again fending off claims it had tried to buy the silence of victims.

The archbishops of Melbourne and Sydney, Australia's two biggest Catholic dioceses, took out advertisements in newspapers around the country to express the church's regret and to apologize for the length of time it took to deal with the issue.

"We again acknowledge with deep sadness and regret the evil of sexual abuse and other betrayals of trust which have been committed by a small minority of Catholic clergy," Sydney Archbishop George Pell and Melbourne Archbishop Denis Hart said.

Wrongs and hurt

"On behalf of the Catholic Church in Melbourne and Sydney, and personally, we apologize, sincerely and unreservedly, to all victims of abuse, and to the Australian community, for the wrongs and hurt suffered," they said.

Pell had said earlier in the week he did not know if abuse by clergy in Australia was as bad as the scandals which have rocked the church in the United States, but that there was an evil in Australia which must be confronted.

The church also confirmed on Monday it had paid A$3.0 million (US$1.7 million) in compensation to sex abuse victims in Victoria state alone since 1996.

Pell said up to 90 priests and brothers had been convicted of sexual abuse in the past six years across Australia. The total amount of compensation paid to victims around the country is not known because different systems operate in each state.

Compensation

Pell set up a compensation scheme in Melbourne in 1996. Since then it had dealt with 126 cases, out of which 101 victims had accepted compensation.

The Melbourne diocese has paid A$3.0 million in compensation, with victims able to receive payments of up to A$55,000 each, and between A$1.5-2.0 million for counseling of sex abuse victims since 1996. A similar compensation system is in place in Sydney.

"Compensation payments are not an attempt to buy silence," Pell and Hart said in their letter.

"Victims are not prevented from discussing the abuse they have suffered with anyone at any stage, but many prefer that their privacy be respected. Victims are not silenced as a condition for receiving counseling or compensation," they said.

They said victims who accept compensation must sign releases which end further legal proceedings and that discussions and documents in the compensation process must remain confidential. ***Reuters***

2 Israelis killed in attack on Jewish settlement

JERUSALEM—Two Jewish settlers and a Palestinian died Saturday in an attack on the Jewish settlement of Karnei Tzur, an Israeli military spokesperson said as Prime Minister Ariel Sharon readied for talks in the United States and a new bid to persuade the Americans to sideline Yasser Arafat.

In the latest blow to hopes for Middle East peace, two Palestinians opened fire on trailers in the settlement south of Bethlehem in the West Bank in a pre-dawn attack, killing a young couple including a pregnant woman and wounding four other settlers.

Soldiers guarding the settlement returned fire, killing one of the attackers while the second escaped toward nearby Palestinian villages. The Israeli Army sealed off the sector, the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson blamed Arafat's Palestinian Authority for the attack, accusing it of "doing nothing to prevent such terrorist acts." Such operations against Jewish settlements are not generally condemned by the authority which says they are legitimate, unlike attacks on civilians in Israeli territory.

As Sharon prepared to leave for Washington, the politically weak Arafat appealed to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, currently on a high-profile visit to the United States, to lobby US President George W. Bush on convening a Middle East peace conference as soon as possible.

"I hope President Mubarak will discuss with President Bush how to immediately decide on a plan for an international peace conference," Arafat told reporters Friday after attending weekly Muslim prayers at a mosque in Ramallah.

"They must act very fast to rescue the peace because the peace in the Middle East has been damaged," he said.

Arafat's words bore testament to another day of violence in the 20-month-old intifada that saw Israeli troops roll into the West Bank towns of Jenin, Bethlehem and Tulkarem, where three people were arrested.

Bush Friday welcomed Mubarak to the presidential retreat at Camp David near Washington, the first of two planned meetings on Middle East issues as he reviews US policy in the region.

Bush was to spend Friday night and Saturday at the retreat in Maryland with Mubarak before returning to Washington to keep a Monday appointment at the White House with Sharon.

"After my meetings with President Mubarak and Prime Minister Sharon, I'll talk to our country about how I think we should move forward," Bush said after a meeting with congressional leaders at the White House.

He gave no details of the style or substance of such a statement, or how it was likely to be presented, nor when the US public should expect it.

Asked whether Bush would unveil a peace plan, White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer replied: "He's still in the phase now of listening and gathering thoughts and ideas."

Bush said he would take into account reports from his envoys to the region, which this week included CIA director George Tenet, recently returned to Washington, and the state department's top diplomat for Middle Eastern affairs, William Burns, who was on the road home Friday as well.

Mubarak was championing his own peace plan that calls for the declaration of a Palestinian state by early 2003 as he looks to end the regional violence that has left more than 2,000 dead.

Creation of a Palestinian state is the "best guarante" against suicide bombings against Israelis, Mubarak told CNN television, ahead of his two-day summit with Bush.

Washington has trumpeted the convening of a Middle East peace conference for the summer, backed by the UN, Russia and the European Union.

But the timetable for a diplomatic initiative is fragile and the little momentum could easily be shattered as violence in the territories continues to creep upwards.

Some 50 Israeli tanks stormed back into the town of Jenin early Friday, hours after ending an incursion launched in reprisal for a suicide bombing earlier this week, Palestinian sources said.

Tanks also entered the towns of Qabatiya and Jaba, south of Jenin, with four helicopters opening fire and wounding three Palestinians, the sources said.

Israeli military sources described Friday's Jenin operation as "routine patrols," adding that "occasional clashes had taken place." *AFP*

Number of hungry unchanged

ROME—Five years ago, delegates to the World Food Summit listened to impassioned speeches by Fidel Castro and the Pope and pledged to reduce by half the number of hungry people in the world by 2015.

On Monday, the follow-up World Food Summit opens to the reality that the number of people without enough to eat is just about where it was then—800 million.

Jacques Diouf, director general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, which is hosting the summit, says there is more than enough food produced in the world to feed its 6 billion people. The issue is getting it to the hungriest.

"We cannot consider nowadays—with the possibility of daily telecommunications, transport, Internet, TVs and so on—that people can (in some places) be wealthy, be rich, and in other parts of the world, people are in a situation of starvation," Diouf said in an interview.

More than 100 heads of state and ministers attending the four-day summit are expected to recommit themselves to their original pledges to bring the number down to 400 million. Whether they will actually make good on those promises this time around remains to be seen.

For example, the food crisis in southern Africa, where an estimated 12.8 million people in six countries are at risk of starvation because of drought, floods, government mismanagement and economic instability.

Other issues are likely to come up as well—access to markets for poor farmers and the use of genetically modified foods. Both are flashpoints for environmental and farmers rights groups who will be holding a parallel food summit on the outskirts of Rome.

The United States has been a major advocate of genetically engineered foods, arguing that the creation of drought—and insect-resistant crops ensures greater food security—a goal of the FAO.

Opponents say engineered crops pose environmental and health hazards and are designed to benefit the multinational corporations that develop them, not farmers or consumers.

Poor farmers are also at a disadvantage in current international trade policies, said Michael Windfuhr, a member of the non-governmental coalition at the summit. *AP*

Japan birth rate hits all-time low

TOKYO—The number of babies born in Japan has sunk to an all-time low as the population ages and women put off motherhood, media reported on Saturday.

The news will set alarm bells ringing for government officials grappling with ways to reverse their nation's rapid graying and a resulting increase in pension costs.

The number of babies born last year fell to 1.17 million, down 18,822 from the year before and a record low, according to a health ministry survey released to local media.

The birth-rate—the average number of babies born to a woman in her lifetime—also hit its lowest ever, slipping to 1.33 per woman last year from 1.36 in 2000.

The previous low was 1.34 in 1999, with the rise in 2000 most likely due to the number of "millennium babies" born that year, the Mainichi Shimbun newspaper said.

A tendency by women to marry later and take more time after marriage to start a family are major factors behind the falling birth-rate, the ministry said.

The average age of Japanese mothers at the birth of their first child rose slightly to 28.2, it added.

Looming ahead of Japan is a shortage of working-age people and rapid growth in the number of elderly relying on state pensions. *Reuters*

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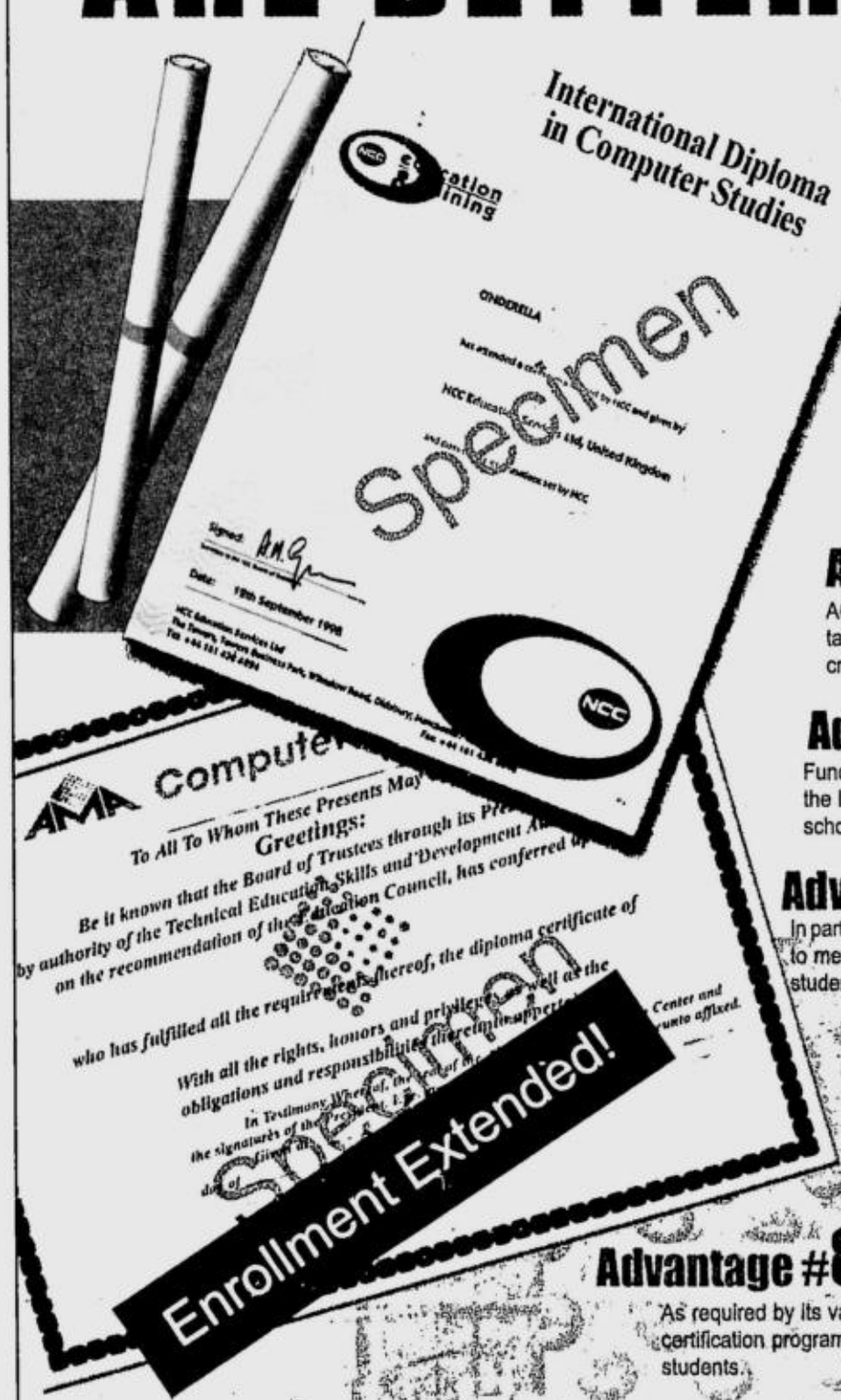

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DOLE execs relieved for estafa

BACOLOD CITY—Four officials of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) were relieved from their post effective Friday following the issuance of a check worth P20.9 million by the agency that bounced twice.

Among those relieved was Bienvenido Elorcha, DOLE director for Western Visayas who was one of the two signatories of the check.

Carlos Boteros was recalled to his old position at the DOLE regional office, replacing Elorcha, as officer in charge.

The other signatory, DOLE cashier Andrea Patagani was also relieved.

The two others who were removed from their post were DOLE Bacolod chief Ricardo Monegro and accountant Maria Victoria Mondragon.

Presidential Assistant for Western Visayas Franklin Fuentebella said the relief of the four stemmed from the DOLE's issuance of a check worth P20.9 million intended for about 20,000 sugar farm workers in Negros Occidental.

The amount comprised the three percent social amelioration fund share of the workers of the Binalbagan-Isabela Planters Association (Bipa), based mainly in the fifth district of Negros Occidental, as mandated by Republic Act 809.

This three-percent share comes in the form of a *quedan*, a receipt that indicates the existence of sugar stocks in a sugar mill.

Under the law, the DOLE sells this *quedan* to the trader. The proceeds are then remitted to the Bipa for distribution to their workers.

In a statement, Fuentebella said Labor Assistant Secretary Benedicto Ernesto Bitonio Jr. assured him that the DOLE had taken action on the bouncing check controversy.

Aside from the relief of the four, Fuentebella said Patagani was placed under preventive suspension.

Charges of estafa and bouncing check were also filed against Patagani and sugar trader Terita Seran on May 31.

Seran's checks issued to the DOLE in payment intended for the workers' social amelioration fund had also bounced.

Bitonio also informed Fuentebella that the DOLE was looking for funds to cover the P20.9 million so the money would be immediately distributed to the workers.

The DOLE was also reviewing the procedures and policies on the handling of the three-percent production share of the laborers in the sugar industry, he added.

On Thursday, Negros Occidental Board Member Emilio Montalvo also asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to help source payment of the P20.9 million needed by the sugar workers for the opening of classes.

Based on a complaint of Montalvo and Bipa President Enrique Montilla, the National Bureau of Investigation also filed charges for violation of the Anti-Bouncing Checks Law against Elorcha and Patagani on Wednesday. ***Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Police deployed to arrest Ecleo Jr.

BUTUAN CITY—Sen. Robert Barbers has called on the followers of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association (PBMA) to respect the law and not to resort to violence amidst ongoing police and military operations to arrest their fugitive supreme leader Ruben Ecleo Jr.

"Let us maintain a calm and respect (the) rule of law. That's the law and nobody's above the law," Barbers told reporters in a press briefing shortly upon his arrival at the Bancasi Airport here yesterday afternoon.

Despite his efforts through peaceful talks with Surigao del Norte Rep. Glenda Ecleo for her to surrender her son, Senator Barbers said the police must now affect the arrest of Ruben Jr. "for the interest of justice."

"For the interest of justice the police must serve the warrant of arrest," he said.

Barbers said he "can't wait forever" for the suspect to voluntarily surrender to the authorities.

"Whether there is a pending petition or not, the Caraga police must serve the warrant," Barbers said referring to the pleadings made to him by Representative Ecleo to just wait for the Court of Appeals to decide on its petition before she voluntarily yields her son.

According to Barbers, law enforcers have no other recourse but to serve a warrant against his political rival.

Chief Supt. Alberto Olario, Caraga regional police chief, said he had already ordered the deployment of police teams, overt and covert, as part of the operations to arrest Ecleo who is believed holed up in his mansion in San Jose, Dinagat Island.

"We are now ready to serve the warrant of arrest. But we still hope he would surrender to avoid violent confrontation," Olario told the INQUIRER.

He said Representative Ecleo had been given enough time to peacefully turn over her son.

Olario said he already received instructions from PNP chief Gen. Leandro Mendoza to effect the warrant of arrest "at all cost" after Representative Ecleo failed to surrender her son.

Olario said Representative Ecleo had until yesterday to peacefully surrender her son to police authorities as agreed in the previous negotiations.

"This is a show of force. We are now ready to enforce full force of the law against Ecleo," Olario said.

Supt. Ricky Nerves, Surigao police provincial director, said two platoons of Army soldiers belonging to the 20th Infantry Battalion had moved in yesterday morning as an augmentation force of the elite police forces that was deployed to Dinagat Island last night. ***Franklin Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

BRISK SALES TOOTS SOBERANO

School bags sell briskly in Baguio City days before the opening of classes next week.

Gloria orders energy summit for Bicol

NAGA CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo has ordered the holding of an energy summit for the Bicol region to address the stunted development of the area despite its significant contribution to power generation.

The President said the summit should take place within weeks after her announcement, which she made at the Joint Regional Development Council (RDC) and Regional Peace and Order Council meeting here on June 3.

Ms Macapagal said Energy Secretary Vincent Perez, who was also present at the meeting, will address the concerns of the Bicol region in the proposed summit.

Perez will also take up the issue of the Energy Fund, which is undertaken by the Department of Energy and the National Power Corp., she added.

The order came following the issue of inequity raised by Albay Gov. and RDC chair Al Francis Bichara who said that Bicol remains the second poorest region in the country (next to the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao).

Bichara said that it was ironic that despite the big contribution of the region to the production of energy for the Luzon grid, it pays higher rates for its power consumption compared with other more (economically) advanced regions.

The Tiwi geothermal energy complex in Tiwi, Albay, and the Bac-Man geothermal project in Albay and Sorsogon are two of the biggest sources of geothermal energy in the country. ***Roly Embile, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

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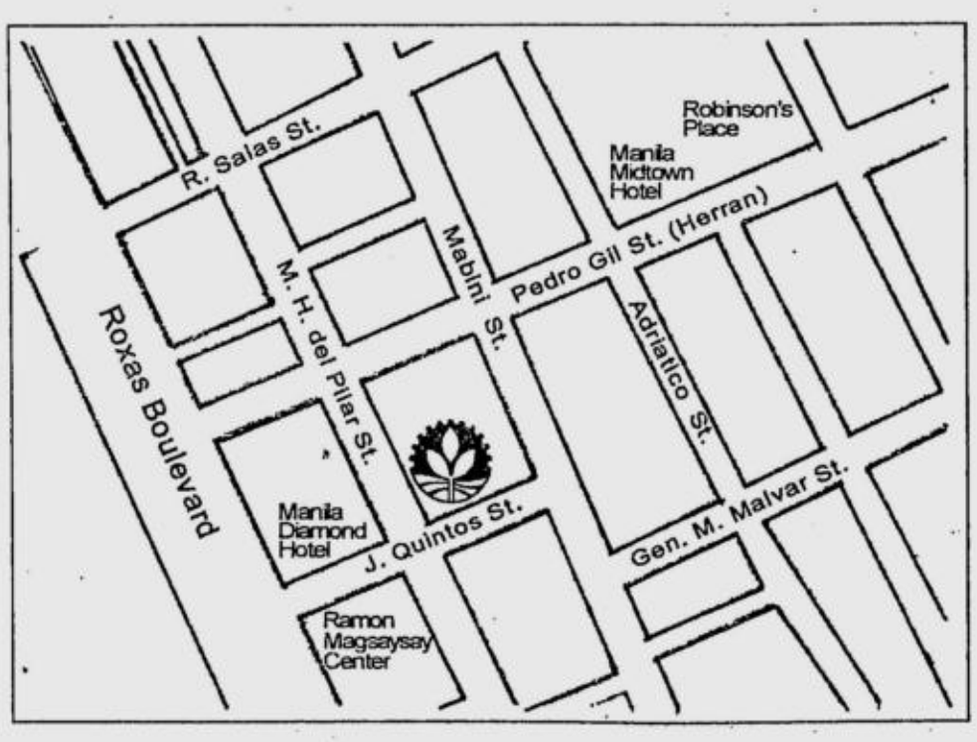

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Unions losing members to contractual employment

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet—The country's largest militant union is seeking new legislation that will protect a new breed of laborers who were forced upon the Philippines by rapid globalization—the contractual employees.

Bayan Muna Rep. Crispin Beltran said this is the new crusade of the 45-year-old National Federation of Labor Unions (Naflu), which came to terms last week with the radical decline in trade union membership for the past decade.

Naflu, an affiliate of the political labor center Kilusang Mayo Uno, conducted its 45th congress here last week.

Naflu saw its ranks depleted by 43 percent at their last membership count, because union members in assembly line industries either lost their jobs or were forced to accept new contractual-labor terms from their employers.

Lito Usteres, Naflu president, said even mainstream unions like the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) have been losing legitimate members to contractual employment.

Usteres said Naflu has resolved to draw back their members under a specialized union wing, to lobby for this new labor mechanism. "We will still pursue our traditional goals, and we will continue to fight the government's resistance to legislated wage increases. But because contractual employees are growing, we must ensure their protection also," he said.

Unions are protected and regulated by the 1974 Labor Code of the Philippines.

Beltran, the concurrent Naflu chair, said new laws such as Republic Act 6715, which defines the scope of unfair labor practices that victimize unions, had touched on labor contractualization, but had been silent on the contractual employees' bargaining rights.

"Our labor laws do not forbid contractual employers from becoming union members, so our losses were more on the negotiating side. The contractual employee has no voting rights like a trade unionist. He does not have the right to negotiate his wages and benefits. He does not have the right to vote in a union election," Beltran said. ***Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Korean firm cleans up Nonoc wastes

SURIGAO CITY—A Korean company has started to clean up the waste left by the bankrupt Pacific Nickel Philippines in Nonoc Island here, local officials said.

Pacific Nickel, which ceased operations in 1986 because of huge debt, has left tons of mineral wastes in the island.

Mayor Alfonso Casurra said Hanphil Joo Philippines has already mobilized some of its personnel for the clean up drive that would cost about $22 million, after the company signed an agreement with the city government on May 14.

He said Hanphil officials told him during the signing that they were also interested in rehabilitating the nickel firm.

There were efforts to resurrect Philippine Nickel in 1987 after the government took over through the Asset Privatization Trust (APT), but the firm's debt of more than P500 million had discouraged interested investors.

Casurra said that during the cleanup effort, Hanphil hopes to extract other minerals from the waste.

He said the Korean firm has estimated it would be able to extract 17 million tons of hematites (wastes from iron and nickel which are used for reinforcing steel products), cobalt and other minerals.

At the current market prices for these other minerals, Casurra said Hanphil officials were looking at making about $28 million from the extraction activities.

Casurra said he was optimistic that the Korean firm would also push through with its planned rehabilitation of the nickel company.

"If that happens, at least 3,000 people would be hired as workers. That would already greatly boost the city's economy," he said.

During its heyday, Pacific Nickel was a major financial booster for the city and Nonoc Island.

In fact, because of the firm, Nonoc Island became Surigao's busiest island with its movie houses and other entertainment facilities, schools and financial institutions.

It earned the distinction of being the only island off the city with three banks.

Nonoc Island was also one of the areas in Surigao that managed to influence local politics because of its 10,000 registered voters.

"Now, it has only about 1,000 voters as people (gradually) left for greener pastures. The banks and other commercial establishments eventually closed shop," Casurra said. ***Grace C. Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

ROUNDUP

Councilor robbed

COTABATO CITY—Two men robbed a town councilor of Alamada, Cotabato, on Tuesday but swift police response netted the suspects in nearby Midsayap town. Councilor Angelina Fortunado was attending a seminar in Alamada on Tuesday and was in custody of the P17,000 cash to be used for the town's anniversary celebration but she left the bag, which contained the money, on her table and went out to take her lunch, police said. Johnly de Leon, 19, and Dante Villahermoso, 20, who pretended to be seminar participants, took the bag and immediately fled. Fortunado called for help and a police roadblock later yielded De Leon and Villahermoso, but only half of the money was recovered.

Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Fire guts market

LUCENA CITY—The public market and several houses in Gen. Luna town in the Bondoc Peninsula were gutted by fire on Wednesday morning. Arsenio Loren, a market inspector, told the police that he noticed a spark in one corner of the market, which was followed by a loud blast. A warehouse full of copra worth around P7 million owned by one Felino Tan was among the firms razed. Arson investigators suspected faulty electrical wiring as the cause of the blaze.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr. PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Truck kills boy

LOPEZ, Quezon—A 6-year-old boy died on Tuesday along the Maharlika Highway in Barangay Sugod, after a speeding truck run over him. Police identified the victim as Denmark Lagayo, a resident of the barangay. Jose Catalla, driver of an Izusu Elf delivery truck with plate number WSM 655, told the police that on his way to the poblacion he ran over the victim when the boy suddenly crossed the highway. Lagayo was pronounced dead on arrival at the St. Jude Hospital here.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr. PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Indian national robbed

TAYABAS, Quezon—A still unidentified armed man in Barangay Lacawan, in this town held an Indian national on Wednesday. Police identified the victim as Joigi Singh, a moneylender and resident of Barangay Mateuna here. The victim told the police that he was riding his motorcycle when a man riding a Suzuki motorcycle overtook him, poke a gun at him and announced a holdup. Singh said that the man sped away after he took his money. The police failed to find the suspect in a chase but found his motorcycle abandoned in Barangay Ibabang Domoit here.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr. PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Gawad Saka Award

SORSOGON CITY—The Sorsogon Provincial Agricultural and Fishery Council (PAFC) bagged this year's National Gawad Saka Award for the most outstanding PAFC. Sorsogon had previously won the same award in 1989 and 1992, which made the province illegible for the Hall of Fame status. Ramon Dino, Sorsogon PAFC chairman, said the innovative spirit and sensitivity to the appropriate responses to the needs of the agriculture and fishery sector are among the reasons they repeatedly won the award. One of the innovations is the inclusion of an active environmental committee in their organization, which most others in the country had yet to duplicate. The winner of the National Gawad Saka Award receives a citation, a trophy and P250,000.

Roly Embile, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Hunt for escapees

PALO, Leyte—Policemen in Naval town, Biliran were conducting manhunt operations against two inmates who bolted from the jail on May 30. Reports reaching the Police Regional Office in Eastern Visayas based in Camp Ruperto Kangleon in this town on Tuesday said Arnel Salipot and Renato Fabon escaped from the police municipal jail at about 1:30 a.m. by cutting a hole on the ceiling inside their cell. The ceiling was made of plywood, the report said. Salipot and Fabon are facing charges of homicide and violation of the Dangerous Drugs Act respectively.

Cynthia A. Borgueta, PDI Visayas Bureau

Help for ex-rebels

ROXAS CITY—Some 177 former rebels from Panay Island received P8,000 each in livelihood assistance and P1,700 in personal emergency assistance from the National Amnesty Commission (NAC) in last week's ceremony. The rebel returnees also received certificates of amnesty and identified cards from NAC chair Alfredo Tadlar. Of the 177, 66 were from Capiz, 44 each from Iloilo and Antique, 18 from Aklan and five from Guimaras.

Gerry T. Pagharlon PDI Visayas Bureau

Illegal drugs seized

BACOLOD CITY—The city police's Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) arrested a Manila resident after about 235 grams of illegal drugs were allegedly seized from him in a buy-bust operation on Thursday. But Ramonet Teodoro Sian, of Parañaque City, denied the pack containing methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu was his. He said he came to Bacolod to visit his son who was studying here. Sian said he was shocked when policemen went inside a rented room in St. Joseph Courtyard Inn here, woke him up and showed him the drugs. He also claimed the police took his P175,000 including his $1,000. Insp. Clarence Dongail, who led the buy-bust operation, denied the drugs were planted. Sian was detained at the police precinct 1 pending filing of criminal charges. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Batanes group of islands will have rains and gusty winds with moderate to rough seas. Northern and Central Luzon, particularly the Western section wil be cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy. source: **pagasa**

Metro Manila	Mostly cloudy with rains	HI32° Lo24°
Baguio	Cloudy with rains	HI 21° Lo 16°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 24°
Laoag	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 25°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with rains	HI 31° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Mostly cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Cloudy with rains	HI 32° Lo 26°
Calapan	Cloudy with rains	HI 32° Lo 24°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly cloudy to cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 25°
Roxas	Partly cloudy to cloudy	HI 33° Lo 26°
Cebu	Partly cloudy with rains	HI 32° Lo 26°
Tacloban	Partly cloudy to cloudy	HI 34° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Partly cloudy to cloudy	HI 33° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly cloudy to cloudy	Hi 35° Lo 25°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly cloudy with rains	HI 32° Lo 25°
Davao	Partly cloudy with rains	HI 32° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Armin Adina, PDI Research/06/09/02

Books to boost upland education out

By Ben Moses Ebreo
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—The provincial government of Nueva Vizcaya has started distributing locally produced books and training day care teachers to improve the reading and writing skills of children in upland villages in the province.

The move, according to provincial officials, will break the barriers of primary education between children in upland villages and their lowland counterparts.

Some 20,000 copies of the workbook, "Getting Ready to Learn," have been distributed to day care centers in various villages in the province through a $300,000-grant from the Ford Foundation.

The program, called "Project Jumpstart," aims to increase the establishment of day care centers in 275 barangays in the province. At least 60 percent of these villages are located in Nueva Vizcaya's uplands.

Gov. Rodolfo Agbayani said one of the major components of the two-year program is the opening of 53 day-care centers, introduction of kindergarten curriculum and improvement of the reading performances of pupils in Grades 1 and 2.

"Most of our barangays have no kindergarten or preparatory schools," said Agbayani, who heads the multi-sectoral team tasked to initiate the project.

The team is composed of representatives from the private sector, the mayors' league, barangay captains and the Department of Education.

The educational materials, which include teachers' guides and modules and different workbooks, were produced by elementary teachers Dr. Leopoldo Saquing, Dr. Nena Valdez, Caroline Piedad and Flordeliza Badua of Saint Mary's University here.

More than 300 day care teachers here have been attending a series of training workshops conducted by the Summer Institute for Early Childhood Workers since last year to prepare them to use their guides. The training also prepares them to teach their pupils through a local education program called "Thematic Approach for Early Learners."

The locally produced "Getting Ready to Learn" workbooks are intended to improve reading and writing skills for children enrolled in preparatory and Grade 1 levels, Agbayani said.

Other books deal on proper nutrition awareness to improve the health of children in the uplands.

"This is still under experimental stage. With the production of these materials, day care teachers are relieved from doing their daily lesson plans. Now, they can concentrate on learning how they can effectively teach their pupils, especially those in remote villages," Agbayani said.

He said nutritional awareness has been integrated to the daily lessons of day care teachers "because nutrition is an important element on primary education."

"What is important here is (that) the formative stage of the human mind is in kindergarten and elementary grades. It is at this phase that nutrition consciousness should be injected," he said.

Agbayani said the nutrition problem among children in the upland barangays is prevalent and this hampers learning.

The teachers in the primary grades are only high school graduates but they teach multi-grade children and receive a salary ranging from P1,500 to P3,000, he said.

"So while the teacher gets this poor compensation for their hard work, their pupils suffer from deprivation of high quality education. And by the time they reach the fourth grade, they would be lagging behind those of their levels in lowland schools," Agbayani said.

Fe Sadangsal, social welfare assistant and coordinator of the province's child and youth program, said several day care teachers who only receive a P500-honoraria usually leave their work despite a two-year service contract with the provincial social welfare office.

"But now we have agreed that before they leave, they should train their replacements," Sadangsal said.

11 slain in clash, holdup in Kabuntalan, Maguindanao

COTABATO CITY—Six suspected rouge Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels were slain in a clash with government soldiers in Kabuntalan, Maguindanao, on Friday afternoon, the Army's 6th Infantry division reported.

Maj. Julieto Ando, speaking for the 6th ID, said elements of the 57th Infantry Battalion were patrolling the marshlands of Kabuntalan town looking for suspected cattle rustlers when fired at by about 40 gunmen.

A three-hour firefight ensued, with the armed men fleeing toward the Liguasan marsh, Ando said.

"They brought their slain comrades but left their rifles," Ando told the INQUIRER when asked how the Army knew there were fatalities among the gunmen when no body count was reported.

Soldiers recovered two rocket propelled grenade launchers, two M-16 Armalite, two M-14 rifles and a Browning Automatic Rifle.

He said the soldiers were responding to civilians' complaints that an armed group had been extorting farmers and robbing them of their work animals in the boundary of Cotabato City and Kabuntalan.

MILF political affairs chief Ghazali Jaafar, however, denied the Army's claim that the group it encountered in Kabuntalan were MILF fighters.

"We religiously abide by the ceasefire agreement and our instruction is clear, that is, to maintain a defensive position," Jaafar told the INQUIRER.

He said the group could be lawless elements claiming to be MILF members.

In Pagagawan, Maguindanao, five persons were killed in a daring holdup inside a bus plying the Davao-Cotabato route yesterday morning.

Two passengers, a police and a security guard, fought it out with the four suspects while the bus was in transit in Barangay Tunggol in Pagagawan.

Both the police and security guard were killed after they separately killed two of the four suspects.

The victims were identified as SPO3 Francisco Udani of the Cotabato City police force, security guard Ricky Cadungog and 7-year-old Julhamin Agam, who was hit by a stray bullet. ***Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

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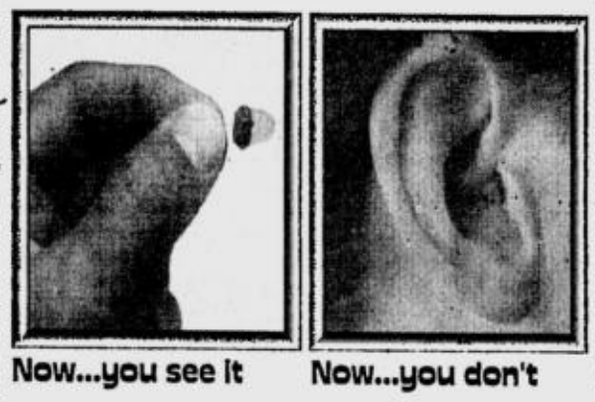

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Lack of forms hampers village candidates

NAGA CITY—Two days before the deadline for the filing of candidacy for the synchronized barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan polls, documentary stamps and certificate of candidacy (COC) forms have ran out of supply.

Many candidates were in quandary where to buy documentary stamps and COC forms, both pre-requisites for the applications for candidacy with the Commission on Elections, when several towns in Camarines Sur reported a scarcity of the documents.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue in the province announced that its Manila office sent them only 1,000 pieces of documentary stamps.

The Comelec here said that it was given only one copy each of the COC form for both barangay officials and the SK.

A candidate is required to fill up four identical COCs with three P15-documentary stamps on it.

Hipolito Echano, assistant Comelec officer here, said that the candidates had to reproduce four copies of the COC to be filled and filed before the deadline tomorrow.

Echano said that in Naga City alone, the Comelec is expecting to register some 1,100 candidates for the chairmanships, councilors and SK officials in its 27 barangays.

To remedy the situation, Comelec officer Noriel Badiola had allowed applicant-candidates to attach in their COCs the receipt of the documentary stamps in order to qualify.

He called on the candidates to file their applications today to avoid the deadline rush.

Echano said the Comelec Provincial Office had authorized them to work overtime on Election Day on July 15, but they would need a separate directive to extend their office hours on Saturday until Monday to accommodate the candidates who will try to beat the deadline.

In a related development, the Comelec here said there is a low turnout of applicants for the Sangguniang Kabataan, a day before the deadline for the submission of certificates of candidacy.

Badiola, said that out of 27 barangays in Naga City, only 13 have candidates who beat the Friday deadline for the filing of candidacy for the SK.

He said the government has spent some P120 million for last week's special registration of youth voters for the July 15 SK elections. ***Juan Escandor Jr. PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

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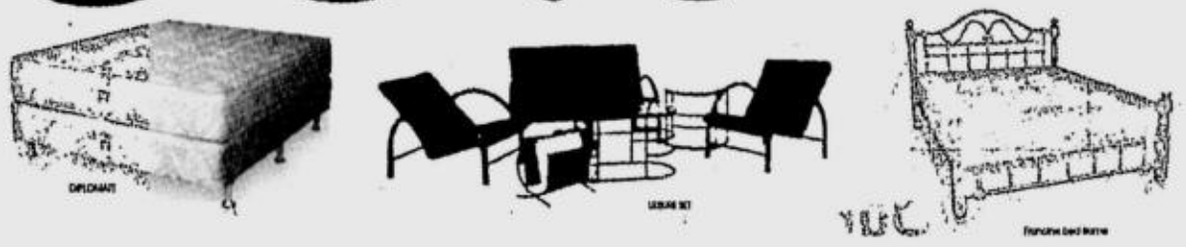

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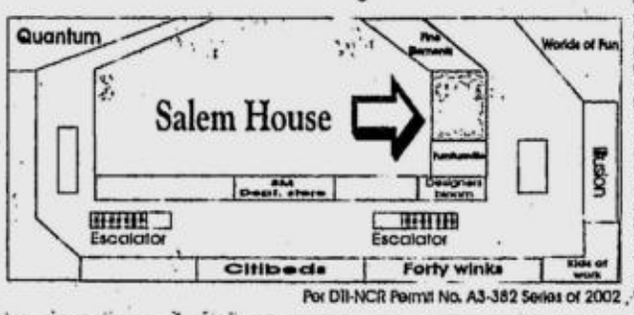

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INQUIRER *Mindanao*

Editor **Jun Bandayrel** • *Bureau Chief* **Nico A. Alconaba**

Surigao goes from wet to very wet

By Romel M. Oribe
Surigao del Sur

IT'S supposed to be summer but Surigao del Sur is drenched, affirming once again the two synonymous seasons in this part of Caraga Region—the wet and the very wet!

Before dawn breaks, Nong Damian is already sitting by the window of his nipa shack in Awasan, Tago, Surigao del Sur. Not far away, his farm with harvestable palay is submerged in knee-deep rainwater. One day more and the palay will start growing and become useless. Or, with a slim chance that it can be salvaged will sell at a giveaway price.

Nong Damian couldn't help think of his financial obligations and his son Dodong who is entering college in June. He drinks the weak *salabat* with the pained countenance of someone who had been robbed.

Four months earlier, Nong Damian had availed of production loan from a cooperative through a *selda* (a group of 10 farmers) of which he was a member. But the amount not being enough, he looked for people who were willing to make *pahumay*, a scheme that entitled an investor to six sacks of palay at harvest time for every P1,000 he sank in.

Attention

Nong Damian labored hard, rising earlier than the birds and braving the sun and the rain just to give his farm the attention it needed. And he never forgot to pray.

There was shared optimism among farmers then. First there was enough water their un-irrigated lands needed for planting, prompting one of the older farmers to predict that the harvest would be good this year.

When palay started to turn golden, all indications for a bumper crop were there. But one night, the rains came.

At first the farmers were not alarmed; rains were needed to ripen the palay. But when the rain showed no sign of stopping, Nong Damian became distressed.

His investors and Dodong's college education will have to wait until the next cropping season. But this is assuming too much he'll have the wherewithal to go at it again. And the odds are enormous—the previous *pahumay* will double in value, the cooperative may not want to renew their loan and other investors may become wary.

Havoc

It has been raining hard in Surigao del Sur's central and northern towns for over three weeks now. While authorities are saying that it is not La Niña, it has wrought so much havoc to farms, coming as it does on the eve of harvest time.

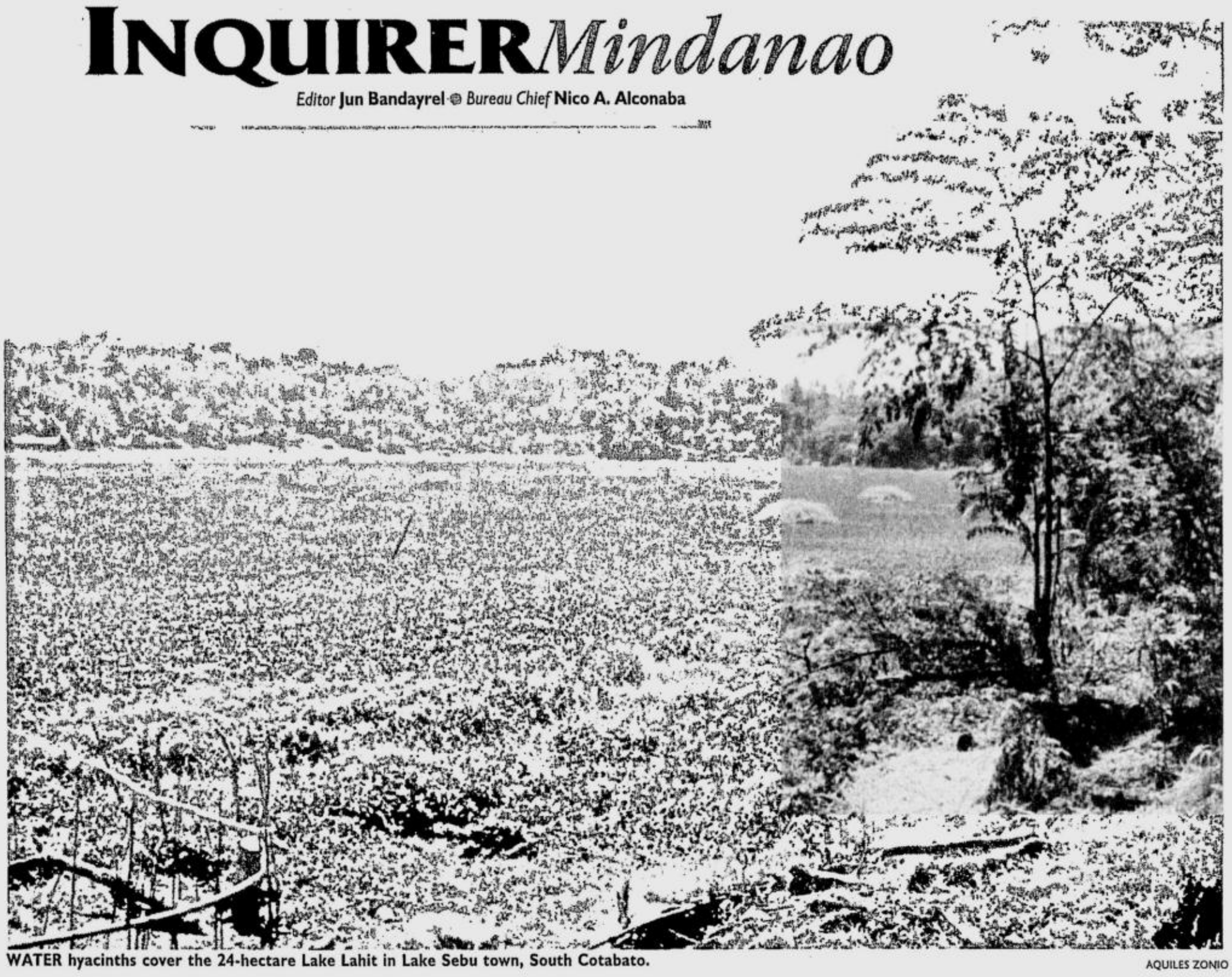
In Tago town alone, it is reported that some 200 hectares of mature rice have no chance of recovery. This means a production loss of at least 200 metric tons with a total value of about P2.05 million.

Talks run wild. That this is God's way of punishing the farmers for their wicked ways.

But one fact remains glaring: The government has been deficient in providing post harvest facilities to farmers. In the central part of the province, there is only one mechanical dryer at the National Irrigation Administration in Tago. The dryer's maximum capacity could account for no more than five percent of the total area's produce. (But it was not a surprise when somebody from the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist said that there were mechanical dryers in Bislig that have become white elephants for lack of some mechanical parts).

And because the farmers have to dry and sell their palay all at once as they have no *bodegas* (warehouses) in which to store them, they rely on highways for solar drying. Never mind if this poses traffic hazards in the process; never mind if this eventually downgrades, the quality of rice as it is mixed with sand and gravel.

Romel M. Oribe of Tago, *Surigao del Sur does highly technical work at the Department of Trade and Industry. He can be reached at romeloribe@yahoo.com*



WATER hyacinths cover the 24-hectare Lake Lahit in Lake Sebu town, South Cotabato. AQUILES ZONIO

Lake Lahit's floating nightmare

By Aquiles Z. Zonio
Lake Sebu, South Cotabato

LAKE Lahit is nowhere in sight. What can be seen on the lake's surface are dense mats of floating water hyacinth, the worst aquatic weed in the world.

Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) started to infest Lake Lahit sometime in 1997. In about three years, this free-floating perennial herb had covered the entire 24-hectare expanse of the lake.

Lahit is just one of the three lakes in this town. The biggest is Lake Sebu (354 hectares) and the deepest is Lake Seloton (75 hectares). One thing is quite disturbing—water hyacinths have started to spread in some parts of Lakes Sebu and Seloton.

Unless local officials here start getting down to the nitty-gritty of the problem and try nipping water hyacinths right in the bud, they would wake up one day beholding nothing but the floating nightmare.

Five years ago, 48 fish cages operated in Lake Lahit. All those fish cages are now gone.

Municipal agriculturist Jose Hechanova claimed that they were able to eradicate the water hyacinths during their first clean-up drive in 1997.

That was when Lake Lahit was not yet covered with water hyacinths.

They made another attempt two years ago, but their effort turned futile. Since then, the town officials have been paying lip service to the matter of freeing the lake from the water hyacinths.

Hechanova, in an apparent attempt to hide the ineptitude of his office, passed the buck to fish cage operators and communities living around the lake.

He was quick to name these when asked who was to be blame.

The Municipal Agriculturist's Office is supposed to look after the welfare of the lake. What is his lake warden doing? Why did his office fail to check water hyacinth infestation at Lake Lahit earlier?

His reply: "We only have one lake warden."

Mayor Basilio Salif Sr., also has his own scapegoat. He, a first-termer as mayor, took his predecessor to task for what had happened to Lake Lahit.

He cited the previous administration's inaction, as well as the negligence of residents around the lake as the main culprits.

One can just imagine what will happen to this town if the lakes ceased to exist. It was from one of these lakes where the town got its name. Needless to say, the lakes made this town a tourist destination. The town's four major industries—farming, inland fishing, cottage industry and eco-tourism — are highly dependent on the lakes.

Tourism hub

The town of Lake Sebu, home of the mountain T'boli and B'laan tribes, had been declared the eco-cultural tourism hub of South Cotabato.

Aside from the three lakes, other tourist attractions include seven waterfalls and springs, indigenous arts and crafts, T'boli museum and Traankini Park.

Spending one's furlough here is emotionally, mentally and physically exhilarating. No doubt, a refuge from the drudgery of city life.

There are four resorts offering services like board and lodging; function rooms for seminars, recollections and conferences; lakeside weddings and boat cruising.

Famished? Go to any *carinderia* and savor the town's peculiar *cartes du jour* like *"Tilapiang kinilaw"* and *"Tilapiang chicharong bulaklak."*

Try taking a brief sojourn to this scenic town and experience the real essence and feeling of being in total commune with nature.

In 1984, the mountains surrounding the lakes were covered with lush vegetation.

However, commercial logging and slash-and-burn farming eventually robbed the place of its thick forest cover.

Ned Konan Jr., an employee of the Community Development Information Office here, revealed that for the last 10 years the total area of Lake Sebu has decreased by about 10 hectares. This, Konan said, was primarily due to soil erosion and denudation.

Before, there was no fish pen in any part of the lakes. Nothing splotched the entire vista of Lakes Sebu, Seloton and Lahit. Now, there are fish cages that destroy the lakes' splendor.

The sight of the fish cages became more of an eyesore. This is a classic example of crass materialism at the expense of nature.

Lack of fund

The mayor has claimed that he has made representations to the provincial government and Malacañang to get funding for the planned cleanup.

But nothing has so far happened. The Japan Overseas Foster Parent, through the effort exerted by the Sta. Cruz Mission here, pledged to extend P1.6 million for the eradication of water hyacinths in Lake Lahit.

But the actual clean-up operation is expected to start by August.

Meanwhile, water hyacinths continue to destroy water quality by blocking sunlight, oxygen and water flow. By choking out other vegetation, it makes the lake unusable for other plants, as well as animals that live in or depend on the water. Fish spawning areas are being threatened.

The mayor said that to start the clean-up operation they need more than P1 million, an amount which, for his part, is quite hard to raise.

Pipe dream

The cleanup, the mayor said, will be done manually. "There is no other efficient way to eradicate the water hyacinths. We can't use heavy equipment there."

Manual cleanup of Lake Lahit is just a pipe dream. Mechanical controls such as harvesting have been used for nearly 100 years in the United States.

The manual method was proven ineffective, very expensive and cannot keep pace with the rapid water hyacinth growth especially in large water systems.

In his article titled "Controlling Water Hyacinth," Dr. R. Charudattan of the University of Florida said "Mechanical control of these aquatic weeds can be labor-intensive with limited short-term results."

Experts, he said, recommended that the only logical, long-term solution is to employ an integrated approach to water hyacinth management in which biological control agents play the focal role.

Dr. Charudattan claimed that biological control, especially by using insects, has been highly successful in reducing water hyacinth infestations in Florida, the southern United States and several other countries.

He also recommends "selective harvesting" and "a judicious use of chemical herbicides."

"A coordinated international effort is needed to seek and utilize native pathogens as bioherbicides," Dr. Charudattan said.

In an article published in the March 2000 issue of the Agricultural Research magazine, water hyacinth was considered a potential killer.

The plant, the article said, has been blamed for making people starve in the Sepik area of Papua New Guinea. Australian scientists K.L.S. Harley, M.H. Julien and A.D. Wright, said people "could not access subsistence gardens, hunting areas, catch fish, or travel to market to sell and buy produce" because of dense water hyacinth mats.

In the Florida Everglades of the United States, the snail kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) is endangered partly because this bird cannot find apple snails—its favorite food—where the weed has smothered the snail's food.

In some parts of the world, the mats form a breeding ground for disease-carrying mosquitoes as well as snail species that are intermediate hosts for schistosomiasis, among the world's worst parasitic diseases.

Excessive infestation by this weed can severely constrain human activities, affecting access to water, irrigation, navigation and fisheries.

Like an ant's bite

DUGONG MINDANAW

Raul G. Moldez

We want to know what the Mindanaoan youngblood, middle-aged blood or high blood are thinking about what's happening in Mindanao and the rest of the country. — ED.

I was 11 years old when I decided to join four other kids my age as they marched towards the house of Tiyo Pisyong one summer for the once-in-a-lifetime-ritual young boys normally—or must, if you will—passed: circumcision or *tuli*.

Our family lived then in a remote village somewhere in Southern Leyte province. As it was located kilometers away from the urban center, government doctors did visit us very seldom. Which was why most of the parents would engage the services of Tiyo Pisyong; after all he was a noted *manunuli* in our place.

But before I came up with such decision, there was a very sad story—at least, to me—behind it. Here, after the lapse of 19 solid years, I feel confident to tell you what the story was all about.

Actually, it came to me as no accident. Generations back were also hit by the tease of Noy Ruding who always said, *"Hmm, baho ba kaayong tiktik,"* everytime he saw uncircumcised kids. Baho means obnoxious odor while tiktik refers to the white substance settled inside the penis. That substance, according to my research, was formed through urine's residue.

One time, my father told me it was through Noy Ruding's courage-provoking banter that some of the children in the barrio would urge their parents to have them circumcised even at a young age.

At first, however, I never gave too much importance to Noy Ruding's unpleasant remark; I just considered it a plain joke coming from an old man.

But he was incessant in that every time we met, he would portray himself as if he had nausea and was ready to throw up even as he said *"Patuli na kay baho kaayo."* That incident was repeated many times until I could not bear it anymore and cried.

It was at that time when I decided to brave myself against the sharp *labaha* of Tiyo Pisyong despite the fact that my father told me the pain was just like an ant's bite.

Being done without the aid of anesthesia, I could not help but shout for help.

That was it.

Then and there I realized my father was not telling me the truth considering that such was painful having experienced it myself.

However, I have no regrets. And the reason is obvious.

The writer was a fellow to the 4th Iligan National Writers Workshop and the 37th UP National Writers Workshop. He writes poetry and fiction in English and Cebuano. He works with the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Cagayan de Oro where he edits two in-house publications. He is an editor of Peryodiko Mindanao, a local weekly in Cagayan de Oro.

Mindanaoans' views on the Senate mess

VERBATIM

Aprille Globel Mabelin
College of Law, Xavier University
Cagayan de Oro City

IT is a downright disregard of the people's confidence on the land's lawmaking body. It is an insult to the people's capacity to choose rightful lawmakers. The senators can do a lot more things than just create nonsense, unhelpful conflict within the upper house.

Edgar Dimajiva
Government employee
General Santos City

CIVIL society should intervene by staging protest actions in front of the Senate building. This is the time when the members of civil society must speak up. Civil society must tell the senators to stop their bickering and start buckling down to work. Our legislators should think of the national welfare not their individual selfish political ambitions.

Gerald Depareini
Political Science student,
Immaculate Conception College-La Salle
Ozamiz City

JOHN O has become a sort of kingmaker himself. Remember it was him who became the significant addition that resulted to the formation of a shaky administration party-led majority in the Senate. Now he is the one who actually caused the shake-up, supposedly for good. Will he also play spoiler of garden parties to be staged in the future? But as long as the party is nothing but a ceremony of dividing spoils, it is always bound to be ruined.

Domingo Calimpong
Tricycle driver
Ozamiz City

WHATEVER they put forward as reason, their actions all boil down to one aim: the mad scramble for power. It's incomprehensible since they all are powerful already. They could have used it best to serve the interest of the people, not in acquiring more power.

Rolando E. Rabara Jr.
Nurse
Cagayan de Oro City

OUR country is in bad shape. We can't afford to have another crisis. It is clear that personal agenda has become their priority in this senate stalemate. And who gets most affected? It is Juan dela Cruz who elected these "trapos" into office.

Pat Maravillas
Freelance journalist
General Santos City

SENATORS must be ashamed of what they are doing. They are doing more harm than good to the institution. They should set aside politics and prioritize addressing the national problem. With what they are doing, I am afraid our country is going to the dogs.

Lita Marciano
Public market vendor
Ozamiz City

THEY should focus on their jobs. If I were a senator, it doesn't matter with me who the Senate president is, as long as we are one in our thoughts on how best to solve the problem of the country.

Karla Karen Maslog
Government Clerk
Cagayan de Oro City

IT'S a disgrace! Can't they find something better to do than wrestle power from one another?

It's Father's Day. Your birthday. It's Wednesday. Your 7-month anniversary. You got promoted. It's a Friday. A reunion with your friends from your first job. It's your mom's birthday. You had a little quarrel and you want to make up. He got a raise. His parents' anniversary. You desperately need to have some chocolate mousse in your system. A reunion with your high school friends. He suddenly has a craving for medium rare porterhouse. The movie made you hungry. The shopping made you hungry. You're just plain hungry. All the people in the office are talking about this really fantastic place and you don't want to feel left out. It's a Sunday. A reunion with your college barkada. It's your dad's birthday. Your aunt whom you haven't seen in ten years has just flown into town. It's a Saturday. You had a bad day. You had a great day. You got a raise. It's your sister's birthday. It's your brother-in-law's birthday. It's your brother-in-law's mother's birthday... There are so many reasons to go out on a food trip. Now here's another.

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LETTERS TO THEIR CHILDREN

Martin, Ediborah wrote about love and death

SIRAWAI, Zamboanga del Norte—American missionary Martin Burnham wrote of love for his three children and narrated his yearlong captivity in a series of letters that hinted he expected to die.

Maj. Gen. Ernesto Carolina, commander of southern Philippine forces, quoted Gracia Burnham as saying Martin may have had a premonition days before his death that he wouldn't survive the ordeal.

"Martin told her to relay the letters to their children when she gets home," Carolina said.

Carolina visited Gracia at a Zamboanga hospital before she was flown to Manila on Friday evening.

The letters dealt with Martin's deep love for his children, said Army Col. Roland Detabali.

"In some of the letters, Martin was telling stories to his children about their captivity," he said.

When Gracia was airlifted from the misty jungle after a clash between Philippine troops and Abu Sayyaf rebels on Friday, she left the letters with an Army officer in the area. She later reminded US officials to get the letters back, saying: "They're very important to me."

Yesterday, Detabali flew back to the area, near the coastal town of Sirawai, to retrieve the letters and pictures of the Burnhams and their family that the couple kept while in captivity.

The Wichita, Kansas missionary couple was celebrating their 18th wedding anniversary in Dos Palmas Resort in Palawan when Abu Sayyaf rebels abducted them along with another American and 17 Filipinos on May 27 last year.

Most hostages escaped or were ransomed off. Guillermo Sobero of Corona, California, was beheaded.

Former hostages said the couple, especially Gracia, wept frequently when remembering their three children—Jeff, 15, Mindy, 12, and Zach, 11—who were all born in the Philippines.

Ediborah's letters

Burnham's letters were similar to those that Filipina nurse Ediborah Yap had sent to her four children through secret couriers.

"My heart really aches whenever I remember you. I'll never stop loving you till my last breath," Yap wrote to her children in November.

She asked a daughter to plan her college studies and reminded the others to pay for an educational plan for her 6-year-old son.

She agonized over not spending her birthday and Christmas at home.

"My birthday passed. I know you remembered me," Yap wrote in another letter.

Yap once wrote to ask for chocolates for the Burnhams.

She, too, sometimes doubted she would live.

"I'm not sure if, when I could be home, so please always remember my advice. Somehow, I'll be coming back but it's not like the 'real me' anymore."

Martin's body was flown on a US military aircraft to Kadena Air Base on Okinawa, Japan. It arrived at around 1 a.m. (2 a.m. Manila time) on Saturday and was taken to a US Naval hospital at Camp Lester about 10 minutes away, T/Sgt. Adam Johnston said.

While Johnston said it was unclear whether US military coroners would inspect the body, Frank Jenista, spokesperson of the US Embassy in Manila, said they would likely conduct an autopsy. That could help determine if Martin was shot by the Abu Sayyaf or was caught in the crossfire.

Johnston said there were no immediate plans for a memorial service in Okinawa. He said he did not know when Martin's body would be flown to the United States.

"That will be based on what the family wants," he said. ***AP, AFP***

Martin saved Gracia

From page A1

four have been identified.

The Burnhams were celebrating their 18th wedding anniversary at the Dos Palmas Resort in Palawan when they were abducted with several others on May 27, 2001. All the other hostages were released after reportedly paying huge ransoms. Two hostages were beheaded, one of them an American.

Tuazon, himself wounded, noticed that the 43-year-old mother of three was bleeding from a leg wound, and he applied a tourniquet.

The first military unit on the scene attempted several times to administer intravenous medical aid on Gracia, but the rain foiled their best efforts.

In the end, the soldiers radioed their base to ask for medical evacuation, and five soldiers carried Gracia to the top of a nearby hill where troops had secured a landing zone.

Tuazon, whose own foot was fractured by a grenade explosion, was one of seven soldiers who received medals from Army Chief Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu in recognition of their role in the operation.

No soldiers' fire

Padua said he was positive it was not soldiers' fire that killed Martin and Yap.

The small Scout Ranger team that figured in the clash with the Abu Sayyaf were using "single fire" tactics to avoid hitting any of the hostages, he said.

"We did not use automatic weapons to avoid any indiscriminate firing. We had snipers and we were very selective with our targets. That's why we are very sure the hostages were not hit by us," Padua said.

Padua was with a team of Scout Rangers and Marine contingent that left Basilan island for Zamboanga del Norte on May 27 after receiving intelligence information that the Abu Sayyaf had left Basilan with their three hostages.

An encounter on May 29 "confirmed the presence of the Abu Sayyaf," Padua said. He said the team caught up with the bandits at Barangay Sipawak.

The soldiers found the bandits putting up their hammocks on a mountain slope. Numbering about 30, the bandits had split in two groups. A bigger group was guarding the perimeter while the "main" group was higher up in the mountain.

The Burnhams were "sandwiched" between the two groups, while Yap was held by the larger group at the perimeter.

Padua said Abu Sabaya was in the main group.

He said the soldiers did not immediately attack upon sighting the bandits.

"The operation was planned very carefully, with sketches on the ground. The safe rescue of the hostages was the priority," Padua said.

He said two factors worked in the troops' favor: the terrain and the weather.

"They were on a slope and it was raining. That is what we call Ranger terrain and Ranger weather," Padua said.

He said the Abu Sayyaf were also in a "relaxed mood as they were preparing for the rains and were setting up their hammocks" when the Rangers moved in.

When the smoke cleared, seven soldiers and one militiaman were wounded. Of the wounded, two were snipers.

Padua said the recovery of the hostages has simplified their mission.

"It used to be rescue and annihilate. Now it's just annihilate," he said.

Telltale signs

A pair of slippers, a ball pen and dozens of footprints gave away the location of the Abu Sayyaf bandits and their hostages.

The slippers and the ballpen belonged to Edwin Reseroni, 28, a barangay resident whom the bandit group had abducted to serve as their guide.

Pfc. Abner Eustaquio, a Scout Ranger, related how he and other members of the team were resting inside the Dacon Logging Co. compound when company commander, Lt. Oliver Almonares, was sought out by two informants.

One of the men was Bernardo Reseroni, 55, Edwin's father.

He said the slippers and the ballpen belonged to his son who was abducted on June 2.

A team was dispatched to check on the trail of footprints.

It was Alejandro Ebo, a Cafgu from the 44th Infantry Battalion, who acted as the guide through the mountains.

Ebo's participation in the operation was vital as he knew the area by heart.

"We took off at around 7 a.m. We crossed several bridges, climbed a number of hills but the footprints were consistent. Maybe because it was raining hard, the soil was soft, the prints were very obvious," said Cpl. Rene Mabilog.

At around noon, a lead scout saw the armed men.

"Some of them were lying in hammocks while others were preparing their food," Mabilog recounted.

Almonares instructed the snipers' team to assess the situation before acting.

Cpl. Jerry Pulmano, one of the snipers dispatched from the Army's 1st Tabak Division in Zamboanga del Sur, noted that although the armed men were resting, they were watchful.

"They assumed defensive positions even though they were relaxing. They had three up to four teams taking turns in ensuring that they were safe," Pulmano said.

At first the soldiers could not tell the hostages from the bandits.

"All of them were in black. While others were hidden by the hammocks, some had their faces covered with pieces of black-colored plastic," Pulmano said.

After a few minutes, Pulmano said the soldiers were able to recognize Martin and Gracia Burnham who stood out from the group because of their coloring.

"We hit the bandits first and then they fired back at us. The encounter began, and then it rained hard again. That was around 1 o'clock, if I'm not mistaken," he said.

Their binoculars could not help to establish a good sight because of the rain but the soldiers continued to fire at the bandits, Pulmano said.

"We only ceased firing when we noticed that the response was weakening," said Cpl. Jose Lagadon, a sniper with the 1st Reconnaissance Team of the 6th Infantry Division.

Pfc. Alvin Madatu, who was about 15 meters away from where the bandits were, said Abu Sabaya was leading the firing from the bandit group which was using high-powered firearms.

After about three hours, the firing subsided, and at least half a dozen soldiers lay wounded.

The bandits were nowhere in sight.

Almonares instructed his men to secure the area while calling for reinforcements and helicopters to evacuate the wounded.

Good guys

It was at this point that Tuazon saw Gracia Burnham.

"Thank God. I've been with the bad guys for one year now and then suddenly with the good guys again. I can see my children already," were Gracia's first words, he said.

Taking Gracia to safety proved to be difficult.

The helicopters could not descend because of the lack of a landing area.

"So we carried her uphill," Tuazon said.

"Don't worry. I can walk. Thanks to you guys," he quoted the American as saying.

Eustaquio said the soldiers were confident that one of those wounded was Abu Sabaya.

He said that among the items recovered from the encounter was Sabaya's baby Armalite and M203.

"That why we have a strong belief that he was hit," Eustaquio said.

Also included in the war booty were several bandoliers, ammunition, magazines, pouches, Sabaya's alleged sunglasses, a cell phone, several backpacks and Gracia's personal belongings.

Among Gracia's prized possessions was a letter from Martin for their children in Wichita, Kansas. ***(See related story on Page A20.)***

For their efforts, the government troops, including Edo, received the Wounded Personnel Medal from AFP chief Lt. Gen Roy Cimatu yesterday at the Camp Navarro Hospital at the Southern Command headquarters in Zamboanga City.

The soldiers will also be receiving cash awards.

As Cimatu was pinning his medal, Ebo told the AFP chief: "I hope I will become a regular soldier one day, Sir." ***With a report from AFP***

Burnham: Jolly man with big heart

From page A1

ness among tribal folk and their neighbors in Barangay Darapidap, more than 45 km from the capital town of Bayombong.

The iron gates of the NTM compound were locked on Saturday. Inside, five dogs kept guard.

Gone were the yellow ribbons that were tied around mango and pine trees after the Burnhams were abducted on May 27, 2001.

In an interview with the INQUIRER in February, a friend of the Burnhams had said the ribbons would be untied only when the Burnhams were released.

David Mough, NTM assistant spokesperson, said the Burnhams have been in the country for 15 years and assigned to various NTM projects in Luzon, Mindanao and Palawan.

"The primary role of Martin, who was also a (licensed) pilot, was to serve missions such as bringing medicine and literacy materials for minority groups," Mough said.

Mough refused to comment on the rescue operation.

"There's just not enough information to speculate."

He said Gracia was still in shock over the death of her husband.

"Gracia will be reunited with her children as soon as she recuperates. It is up to her if she wants continue her work in Nueva Vizcaya. We will fully support her (decision)," he said.

The Burnhams lived with their three children in a bungalow in the NTM compound here. The children were flown to Kansas to join their grandparents a week after the couple was kidnapped.

Contributions

Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Rodolfo Agbayani said he was very grateful to the couple for helping the provincial government on projects it could not do by itself.

Agbayani said the NTM and the Burnham couple's major contributions to the province were the construction of roads, chapels and a multipurpose hall, the training of tribal pastors and scholarship grants to children of indigenous peoples.

The couple also donated musical instruments to various villages and was instrumental in the construction of an airstrip in Barangay New Gumiad in Dupax del Sur town.

Agbayani said Martin used the airstrip when he visited the village and bring sick tribesmen to the hospital.

The governor said the Bugkalot villagers in New Gumiad have displayed the photographs of the Burnhams in a chapel to thank them for their contributions to the village.

Ramon Pasigian, 43, a Bugkalot, said that two days before they left for Palawan, the Burnhams and a female pilot had lunch in his house in Barangay Lipuga in Alfonso Castañeda town.

Pasigian said they shared a wild pig and vegetables after they visited the Casecnan multipurpose irrigation and power project site.

He said Martin was instrumental in bringing several missionaries to upland villages in Nueva Vizcaya and Nueva Ecija through their plane.

"We are sad because we have been praying that they be released safely. But Martin's death could be the answer to our prayers. It is still the will of God that prevails," he said in Tagalog.

Shocked in Kansas

In Rose Hill, Kansas, Martin's family members said they were numbed by news of his death but their religious faith would carry them through.

"The Lord will give us the strength to get through this," said Paul Burnham.

Later he told reporters, "We would like to see the military continue to take care of this Abu Sayyaf."

"This is a terrorist group that has been hurting the Philippine people for a long time . . . We hope they will be able to eradicate this kidnap-for-ransom gang and take care of many of the problems."

He said his family did not blame the Philippine government for his son's death.

"It's a miracle that anyone survived a military rescue attempt. And it's a miracle that they survived for a year in barbaric captivity," said Gracia's sister Mary Jones, speaking to reporters in Ohio.

She said she was planning to fly to the Philippines as soon as possible to see her sister.

The mission grieves

For Scot Ross, spokesperson of the NTM headquarters in Florida, talking about the death of fellow missionary Martin was painful.

"We're very saddened. We know God has a plan. We may not understand it now, but we will understand this."

Ross said the NTM would not want to comment yet on the appropriateness of the rescue mission that resulted in Martin's death.

"We don't know any of the facts. We did not know that there was going to be a rescue operation," he said.

Ross, who was contacted by the INQUIRER on Friday night, said he had just talked to Martin's parents in Kansas.

He said the elder Burnhams "doing as good as could be expected."

"They're heartsick over the loss of their son," he said.

Son of missionaries

Martin was a second-generation missionary. His parents, Paul and Oreta Burnham, were also NTM missionaries who started serving in the Philippines in 1969.

Martin, in fact, grew up in the Philippines. He was born in Wichita, Kansas on Sept. 19, 1959, and graduated from Calvary Bible College and the Wichita Aviation Education Center. He also completed missionary training in the NTM.

Gracia is a daughter of Rev. Norvin and Betty Jo Jones of Arkansas.

The couple's three children—Jeff, 15, Mindy, 12, and Zach, 11—were all born in the Philippines.

Martin had been with the NTM for 17 years. ***With reports from Reuters, AP***

Gloria to AFP: Now's the time to finish them off

From page A1

tary Angelo Reyes said: 'The instruction of the President is that we should go after them and finish them off."

At the weekly Kapihan sa Sulo Hotel forum, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said an "all-out offensive" against the Abu Sayyaf was now possible with the bandit group no longer using hostages as shields.

"The rules of the game have changed drastically," Golez said. "We can now have an allout offensive within the bounds of the law. Before, there were restrictions (to military operations) as innocent lives may be endangered. But now (the bandits) have no more ace, no more protection."

Incomplete success

The President admitted that the campaign against the Abu Sayyaf was not a total success.

"This hostage situation is over, and (of) the 41 or so hostages that were taken, we have them all. They are all accounted for," she said.

But "there were some deaths, and we regret that very deeply," she added. "It was not a total success because we have some deaths of the hostages."

Overshadowed by the killing of Burnham and Yap was the rescue of hostage Edwin Reseroni, a heavy equipment operator of the Dacon Logging Concession, in the same Friday operation.

Reyes said Philippine Marines recovered Reseroni in the vicinity of Sirawai and Sibuco towns in Zamboanga del Norte around 6 p.m. Friday, hours after the clash between the military and the Abu Sayyaf.

Reseroni, 30, was abducted by the Abu Sayyaf in Sitio Octagon in Sibuco on June 2.

Acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable Jr. said recent military reports no longer mentioned Roland Ullah, who was among the 21 hostages taken by the Abu Sayyaf from the Malaysian island of Sipadan in April 2000.

He said the military had no more sightings of Ullah with the bandits.

Asked in an interview if this confirmed speculations that Ullah had worked for the Abu Sayyaf, Afable said: "There are such speculations. But...we never saw his name (on the military reports)."

Four months ago Malacañang was still very much concerned about Ullah.

In a speech last Feb. 22 before the Philippine Councilors' League, Ms Macapagal said everything was being done to rescue the hostages.

"I would also like to send this message to Mr. Ullah and his family that our war against the Abu Sayyaf is not over until we rescue Roland Ullah," she said.

Sabaya

Visiting the Sirawai jungle site of Friday's bloody rescue operation, AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Roy Cimatu told reporters that he had directed the Southern Command to "take special watch not only here in (their area of) responsibility but also elsewhere, especially in (the western island of) Palawan."

"We cannot afford to have another incident like this," Agence France Presse quoted Cimatu as saying.

Maj. Gen. Glicerio Sua said some forces had been redeployed in the area. "We will not stop until we are able to account for (Abu Sayyaf spokesperson Abu) Sabaya and the rest of his cohorts," Sua said.

Asked if Sabaya was among the four bandits killed in the Friday clash, Sua said: "No, the troops have not recovered his body. Maybe he is still alive, and he is now the subject of our manhunt."

Sabaya, born Aldam Tilao, has frequently given phone interviews to taunt his Filipino military pursuers and the 1,000 US troops advising and training the local soldiers.

Sua said troops had recovered some of Sabaya's "personal effects." Soldiers in the area told reporters these included his broken sunglasses.

Troops are still scouring the area to find out if there are other casualties left behind by the Abu Sayyaf, according to Sua.

Asked about the other Abu Sayyaf leaders, Sua said: "It appears that Sabaya is the only one who was visually sighted here. We are still looking for the others."

"Apparently, nobody saw Isnilon here," he added, referring to Isnilon Hapilon, one of the top five Abu Sayyaf leaders for whose arrest the US Embassy had announced a bounty of up to $5 million.

Reyes stressed that US forces taking part in the Balikatan 02-1 joint military exercise were not involved in Friday's operation.

Continued training

US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, who is considering an expansion of the US counter-terrorism training operation in the Philippines, said the training would continue.

He also said the attempt to rescue the hostages was "understandable."

"The Burnhams have not been well and they lived in captivity a long time, and it seems to me that the attempt to save their lives was understandable," Rumsfeld told reporters aboard his aircraft en route to Estonia from Germany on an 11-day trip. "Every hostage situation is a dangerous situation, and I have no more facts than you do at the moment."

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz also said US support for the Philippine government would continue.

"This incident has only strengthened their resolve to go after the terrorists, and I believe it should strengthen our resolve to help them to do so," Wolfowitz told the PBS program "NewsHour with Jim Lehrer."

In an Agence France Presse report, US Secretary of State Colin Powell said Ms Macapagal, "a staunch ally of the global war on terrorism, has expressed an unwavering determination to bring to justice or destroy the Abu Sayyaf terrorists."

"The United States stands with President Macapagal-Arroyo, the Armed Forces and the people of the Philippines in this just cause," Powell said.

Gracia

The President visited Gracia Burnham, who is reportedly recuperating at the US Embassy, yesterday afternoon. The visit was kept from the media.

The body of Martin Burnham was flown to the US Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan, on Friday night. Gracia was transported to Manila on the same night.

The President said she had telephoned Gracia's sister and Martin's family in Kansas.

She is scheduled to visit Yap's family in Basilan on Tuesday.

Yap's body was to be brought to her hometown in Lamitan yesterday.

"Ediborah is the symbol of the plight of the poor doubly victimized by terrorism," the President said of Yap, whom the bandits abducted at the Dr. Jose Torres Hospital in Lamitan in June last year.

"We shall fight poverty and terrorism not only in Basilan, not only in the Sibuko-Sirawai-Siukon-Balibian complex or Zamboanga del Norte, an area as poor as Basilan where the rescue finally happened yesterday, but we will also bring this fight against poverty and terrorism to the entire country," she said. ***With reports from Volt Contreras, AFP, Reuters***

Inquirer, local magazine win Asian awards

From page A1

founded in 1982 to promote unity and understanding among local publishers and regional representatives of foreign publishers, established the awards in 1999 to pay tribute to editorial excellence in both the traditional and the new media and to encourage editorial vitality in the region.

As expected, regional editions of international publications ran away with most of the awards. The Far Eastern Economic Review won the top award for excellence in magazines while the Asian Wall Street Journal topped the newspaper category.

Newsweek romped off with the most number of awards with five, Far Eastern Economic Review won three and Time Asia took two.

The Best Opinion Piece award was won by Newsweek's "The Roots of Rage" written a month after the Sept. 11 attacks by the celebrated Fareed Zakaria, who traced the Arab world's hatred for America in the past 30 years.

But David's INQUIRER column "Understanding Poverty," on July 14, 2001, on the origins of poverty in the Philippines impressed the judges enough to rate it higher than entries that included one by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

David's column beat those by Annan on the AIDS calamity for the International Herald Tribune; by Hugo Restall, Opinion Page Editor of the Asian Wall Street Journal on "Singapore's Hypocrisy"; and by Sin-Ming Shaw on the impending demise of Hong Kong for Time Asia.

The award was received by INQUIRER news editor Artemio Engracia Jr. The award for Medical Observer was received by publisher Jena Fetalino and editor-in-chief Ding Generoso in behalf of graphic artist Jerico Martinez. In his acceptance speech Generoso said in jest: "We never realized that writing about depression could give us so much joy."

The award for Medical Observer for cover design was a case of David-beats-Goliath. It's April 2001 special issue on depression and suicide, titled "The Mask of Sorrow" beat the entries of Time Asia, which came in second, and other prestigious international publications such as Newsweek, Far Eastern Economic Review, Forbes, Fortune and Ad Asia.

The awards were handed out by Mike Rowse, director general of Investment Promotion of Hong Kong.

Award-winning Indonesian editor and columnist Goenawan Mohamad in his keynote speech, warned against the blind patriotism he called the "Dan Rather Syndrome" in the coverage of the war against terrorism, saying it is as much a threat to freedom as terrorism is.

The chairman of Sopa is Cyril Pereira.

The 2002 SOPA Award Winners:

English Language Media

Excellence in Magazines
Winner: Far Eastern Economic Review
Honorable mention: Fortune

Excellence in Newspapers
Winner: AWSJ
Honorable Mention: IHT

Best Editorial Team
Winner: Newsweek (East Meets West)
Honorable Mention: Time Asia (Asian Voyage)

Excellence in Reporting
Winner: Time Asia (Inside the Battle at Qala-I-Jangi)
Honorable Mention: Newsweek (War on Terror)

Excellence in Feature Writing
Winner: Newsweek (Two Girls & a Shoe)
Honorable Mention: Asian Reader's Digest (One More Mountain)

Excellence in Business Reporting
Winner: AWSJ (The Fall of Asia Pulp & Paper)
Honorable Mention: Fortune (China's Great Step Forward)

Excellence in Technology Coverage
Winner: eCFO & CFO Asia
Honorable Mention: Time Asia

Best Opinion Piece
Winner: Newsweek (The Roots of Rage)
Honorable Mention: Philippine Daily Inquirer (Understanding Poverty)

Best Front Cover
Winner: Medical Observer (The Mask of Sorrow)
Honorable Mention: Time Asia (How the World Sees Japan)

Excellence in Design
Winner: Newsweek (The World's Worst Countries)
Honorable Mention: Destinasian (Shanghai Express)

Best News Photography
Winner: Newsweek (Twilight of the Taliban)
Honorable Mention: Time Asia (Bloody Borneo)

Best Feature Photography
Winner: Time Asia (Burden of Sanctuary)
Honorable Mention: Time Asia (Salt of the Earth)

Best Interactive Publication
Winner: Finance Asia
Honorable Mention: Time Asia

DAVID

BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT!
(Or, what's a complete roof system?)

People think having roofing materials just for beauty and for rain is the complete roof system. Right?

If that were so, what will shield us from the unbearable heat of the sun and the El Niño?

If you can't bear the heat, it's because you have a roof but not a complete roof system!

Air Flow Diagram
3 Hot air escapes through CertainTeed ridge vents
4 Hot air escapes through Mid-America gable vents
2 Cold air enters through CertainTeed eaves vents
1 Harvi-Foil blocks off heat by reflection
See explanation for items 1 to 4 in texts.

Aside from roof materials, the complete system includes the following for a healthy, comfortable, productive home or work place:

❶ You need **Harvi-Foil** insulation material that shields your roof from the sun's radiant heat by reflecting it back to the atmosphere. This foil works much like the silver lining of a thermos bottle that reflects heat back in the container and prohibits heat from escaping.

❷ **CertainTeed** eaves vents allow cool air to enter. your roof interior.

❸ Your roof must have **CertainTeed** ridge vents that allow hot air building up in the roof interior to rise and escape outside.

❹ **Mid-America** gable vents allow hot air to dissipate in the atmosphere.

With this system, you will have cooler days and nights and cooler budgets because you use your aircon less.

Multi-Line supplies all these products. Call us for prescriptions and cool prices of a complete roof system.

Multi-Line Simply Creative

Quezon City: Calderon Bldg. 827 Edsa Phone: 929-9911
Makati: MC Home Depot, Mantrade, Edsa Phone: 894-0845
Cebu: 366 A. del Rosario, Mandaue City Phone: 346-5413
Davao: Go Chi Ping Bldg. 161 McArthur Highway, Matina Phone: 299-2693
Cagayan de Oro: Moreno Bldg. Gusa Highway Phone: 855-1333

JOINT STATEMENT
In support of "Paring Pilipino"

By the grace of God, the council of the Laity of the Philippines and the Pro-Life Philippines issue this joint statement in support of "Paring Pilipino" amidst the attack on a few priests who have been unfaithful to their priestly vocation and consequently have caused unfair assaults to the priesthood and the pain from which the Church currently suffers.

The Council of the Laity of the Philippines and Pro-Life Philippines continue to hold in high esteem the general community of "Paring Pilipino" as collectively and individually our priest struggle to remain faithful to their sacred calling. The Catholic clergy must always be exemplary and without blemish in word and in deed. By this example, they deserve the love and trust and support of all the lay faithful.

Nevertheless, we resolve to mobilize the resources of our lay communities to call the attention of our Church for reforms in the priesthood, if only to cleanse the clergy of priests and practices that compromise their mission and vocation. Even as we are justified by faith, we are likewise sanctified by good works, and these standard must apply for both the laity and the clergy. The lay faithful look up to the priests as models in spiritual and temporal matters.

We further resolve to strengthen the ministry of the clergy and the apostolate of the faithful by our reverence and obedience to the Church's Code of Canon Law for the edification of the Church and the renewal of our Catholic faith.

We obligate our lay faithful to be ever vigilant, now and at all times, to come to the defense of the Church and the "Paring Pilipino" from unscrupulous and false generalizations about the misconduct of an insignificant few; the faithful, continually seek to build up a servant community of unwavering faith in God and constant loyalty to the Catholic Church.

Through the intercession on the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, we pray that our church leaders will have the courage of their convictions; and, guided by our Church doctrines and enlightened by the Holy Spirit, protect and sustain the sanctity of the priesthood so that we, the lay faithful, can be led by our priests to live a Christ-like life which will be the best witnessing we could ever aspire for.

Finally, in the words of Saint Paul in his epistle to the Philippians, we appeal to our brothers and sisters in the faith to support our "Paring Pilipino" and stand for "whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, and whatever things are of good report" (Philippians 4:8).

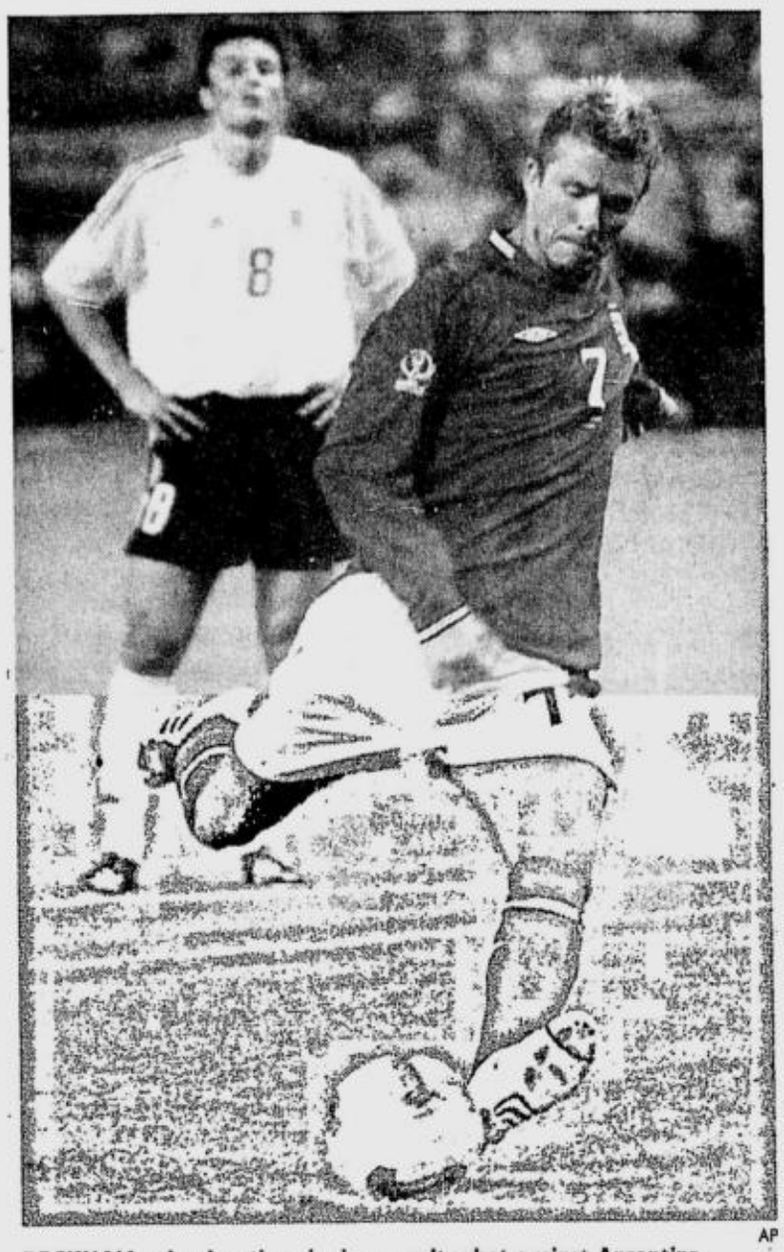
Mabuhay ang "Paring Pilipino"!

Mayor Lito Atienza
National Chairman
Pro-Life Philippines

Dr. Jose "Pete" Villanueva
National President
Council of the Laity of the Philippines

WORLD CUP

Brazilians boot out Chinese



AP

BECKHAM unleashes the winning penalty shot against Argentina.

SEOGWIPO, South Korea —With goals from Roberto Carlos, Rivaldo, Ronaldinho and Ronaldo, Brazil defeated China 4-0 on Saturday in Group C, ousting the Asians from the World Cup finals.

The four Rs were too much for China.

Roberto Carlos scored on a free kick in the 15th minute, followed by Rivaldo in the 32nd, Ronaldinho in the 45th from the penalty spot and Ronaldo in the 55th.

As Brazil won its second straight game in the group–it beat Turkey 2-1 in its opener–China joined Slovenia, Nigeria and Saudi Arabia as teams without a chance of making the second round of soccer's showcase event. China lost to Costa Rica 2-0 in its opener.

Costa Rica faced Turkey on Sunday in the other Group C match.

Earlier in Daegu, South Africa took a huge step toward the second round after a 1-0 victory over Slovenia that eliminated the Europeans after two games.

Siyabonga Nomvethe turned the ball over the line with his thigh in the fourth minute, latching onto Quinton Fortune's curling free kick from the left to hand South Africa its first World Cup finals' victory.

In Ibaraki, Japan, Ivica Olic and Milan Rapaic scored a goal each within three minutes as Croatia came from behind to beat Italy, 2-1, in Group G and revive its chances to advance to the second round.

Group C wraps up play Thursday with Brazil against Costa Rica and Turkey playing China. Turkey, Costa Rica and Brazil are still in contention to be the top two and advance to the final 16.

Roberto Carlos' free kick from 25 meters (yards) was his first free-kick goal for Brazil in five years. The shot rifled off his famous left foot and barely twisted as it sailed in over the outstretched arms of China goalkeeper Jiang Jin, who was diving to his right. *AP*

'Best moment of my career'

YOKOHAMA, Japan —England fans partied through the night. English captain David Beckham spoke of the best moment of his career. Argentina's Kily Gonzalez talked of a loss that "will keep hurting."

And this was only halfway through the first round of the World Cup, with neither of those two teams assured of advancing.

First to reach the round of 16 was Spain, which is trying to shake off a history of disappointments. Italy and Brazil could join the Spaniards by winning Saturday.

"I'm beginning to understand just how much these people love soccer," 14-year-old Koji Kitamoto said in Sapporo, the northern Japan city where England beat Argentina 1-0 on Beckham's penalty kick Friday night. "And it was all good-natured."

More than 7,000 police from around Japan stood guard as the archrival teams met.

After England's supporters celebrated with beer, singing and flag-waving, Junji Ogura, tournament director for Japan's World Cup organizing committee, said in a statement:

"In the name of football, fans gathered for what was a joyous festival of people that continued into the night without serious incident. ... To the fans of Argentina, England and the citizens of Sapporo, I say: 'Congratulations.'"

"I have to say this is the best moment of my career and that has to be the most satisfying goal I have ever scored," said Beckham, who was sent off in a 1998 World Cup match with Argentina for retaliating after being kicked by Diego Simeone.

England's bitter soccer history with the Argentines also includes a 2-1 quarterfinal loss in the 1986 World Cup when Diego scored his "hand of God" goal by punching the ball into the net. *AP*

WORLD CUP 2002 STANDINGS

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Group A							
Denmark	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Senegal	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Uruguay	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
France	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Group B							
Spain	2	2	0	0	6	2	6
South Africa	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Paraguay	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
Slovenia	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Group C							
Brazil	2	2	0	0	2	1	6
Costa Rica	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Turkey	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
China	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Group D							
Korea	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
USA	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Portugal	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Poland	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Group E							
Germany	2	1	1	0	9	1	4
Cameroon	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Rep Ireland	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Saudi Arabia	2	0	0	2	0	9	0
Group F							
Sweden	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
England	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Argentina	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Nigeria	2	0	0	2	1	3	0
Group G							
Italy	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Mexico	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Croatia	1	1	0	1	2	2	3
Ecuador	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Group H							
Russia	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Belgium	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Japan	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Tunisia	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

BOXING: World Heavyweight Championship Fight – Lennox Lewis vs Mike Tyson beginning at 9 a.m. on NBN 4

TENNIS: French Open 2002, Men's Finals at 9 p.m. on Sky Cable and Home Cable 29

MOTOR SPORTS: 2002 F1 - Air Canada Grand Prix Qualifying at 1 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

Race Day - Air Canada Grand Prix at midnight on Star Sports

GOLF: LPGA Corning Classic, Final Round at 2 p.m. on Star Sports

PGA Buick Classic, Third Round at 4 p.m. (r – 9:30 p.m.) on Star Sports

BASKETBALL: NBA Inside Stuff at 7 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

SOCCER: World Cup Today at 7:30 a.m. and 12 noon (r) on Star Sports

I'll crush Lewis' skull–Tyson

MEMPHIS, Tennessee—Mike Tyson returns to the ring Saturday night (Sunday morning in Manila) for his biggest fight since he bit Evander Holyfield's ears. As unstable as ever and just as unpredictable, he's also just one big punch away from being the heavyweight champion again.

The undisputed star of a spectacle that is more theater than boxing, Tyson fights Lennox Lewis in this city of Elvis and barbecue in a bout that could become the richest ever.

For the first time in his career, Tyson is an underdog against a champion who outweighs him, can out-jab him and will tower over him. But Lewis also has a suspect chin, giving the fight an aura of uncertainty.

"I'm just ready to get it on and crush this guy's skull," Tyson said. "I want to show them who the real world champion is– the best fighter in the era."

The fight will take place under extraordinary circumstances, in a city that won it almost by default. The two fighters won't touch gloves and will have to pay the other $ 3 million if they commit a bad foul that ends the fight.

For the 35-year-old Tyson, the bout is a chance to get out of a reported $ 15 million in debt and re-establish himself as a force.

If his declining skills are exposed in a loss, though, it could be the end of multimillion-dollar paydays for a boxer who has fought sporadically against a collection of second-rate opponents since losing to Holyfield five years ago.

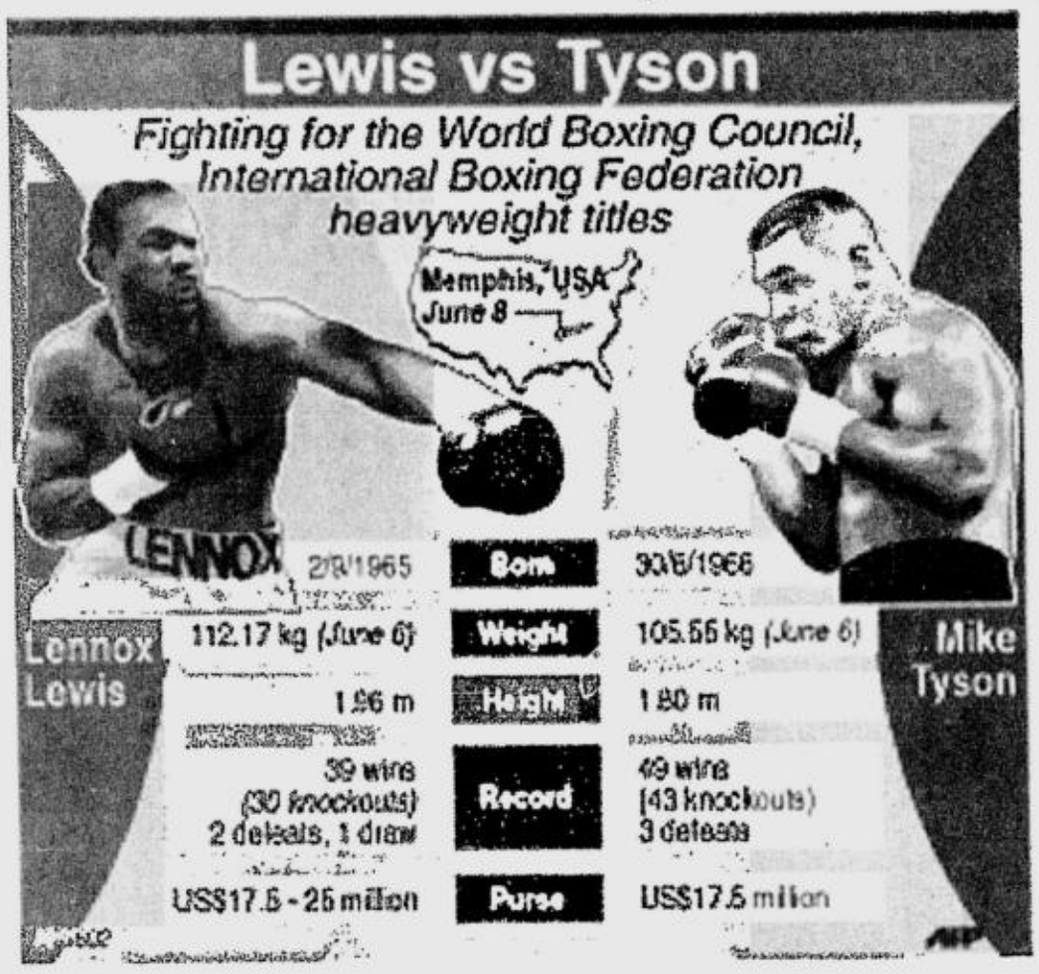
Between those fights, Tyson served time in jail for punching two motorists after a fender-bender, punched out a promoter in London, bit Lewis at a news conference and was accused of raping three more women.

Lewis is determined to make that time come soon, ready to secure his legacy in the sport that embraces him reluctantly as the heavyweight champion.

Overshadowed by Tyson, Lewis (39-2-1, 30 knockouts) has tried to define the fight as a classic battle of good vs. evil –with plenty of help from Tyson every time he opened his mouth. He's a 36-year-old three-time champion and chess player who wanted the fight so badly he stayed in it even after the melee at the news conference in New York City.

In Las Vegas, where boxing regulators rejected the fight, oddsmakers made Lewis a 2-1 favorite in the scheduled 12-round fight at the Pyramid Arena.

It could soon if both fighters stick to their game plans. Tyson (49-3-2, 43 knockouts) always comes rushing out at the opening bell determined to wreak havoc, while Lewis has studied the styles of the two fighters who beat Tyson and is determined to make him back up. *AP*



The boxer, not the man

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

A FRIEND of mine said he was shocked to hear me say Mike Tyson **can** win today. I went further by saying if Tyson's fit as a fiddle, he **will** knock out Lennox Lewis.

"Didn't you say you never liked Tyson only a while back?" said Jun Velasco, who now writes a well-read column for Sunday Punch, that much-admired, multi-awarded newspaper from Dagupan City. "How come Tyson's your pick and not Lewis?"

I told him not liking Tyson and picking him to beat Lewis are two different things.

"In boxing as in life, you have to always separate the man from his job," I told Jun. "One's character, personality, should be divorced from his skill, talent."

Tyson is a beast on the loose. A convicted rapist, he loves to break laws as much as he loves to break jaws. He is a wife beater, whose morals are as filthy as garbage. His mental imbalance had pitifully returned after his boxing mentor—the legendary Cus D'Amato—died a few years ago.

But as a beakbuster, Tyson's the best. For the moment, at least.

Tyson can defeat Lewis because all Tyson needs to recapture his crown is one punch. And he has that and can land that against Lewis. Lewis isn't that fast. He can get tagged and once he gets tagged, it's hello goodbye for the reigning heavyweight champion of the world. Remember Lewis' knockout loss to Rahman sometime ago?

As I said, if Tyson is in shape—both mentally and physically, that is—he will remain unbeatable. He lost to Evander Holyfield because no boxer knows Tyson best other than Holyfield. Before Holyfield, Tyson, because he was terribly out of shape, lost to Buster Douglas. Against Tyson, Holyfield used his long arms to the hilt as to parry Iron Mike's killer thrusts. Holyfield also used his height advantage to perfection, never allowing Tyson to crowd him.

Thus came the Year of the Ear when Tyson, in his utter failure to connect against Holyfield in their second fight, chewed the ear of Holyfield in that infamous 1997 incident that forever consigned Tyson to boxing purgatory.

If he has not retired, Muhammad Ali will beat Tyson easily. Only Ali and Holyfield have the right formula to defeat Tyson.

Lewis? He'll be lucky if he will last the distance today.

■

Belated happy birthday to Attorney Aga (Antonio G. Arellano, June 6), whose new time slot at RMN 558 is from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. Aga has just recharged his batteries, having spent some time in America vacationing. Welcome back, buddy.

Asuncions down badminton opponents

TOP seed Kennevic Asuncion hurdled Arolas Amahit of Army, 13-15, 15-4, 15-9, while sister Kennie crushed Michelle Guerrero, 11-2, 11-1, to advance to the men's and ladies' singles finals of the JVC Open Badminton Championships yesterday at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati.

Kennevic next faces Ian Piencenaves, also of the Army, who beat Rodel Bartolome of Air Force-UP Diliman, 15-9, 15-1, in the other semifinal match of the tournament staged by the International Management Group and sponsored by Yonex, Pioneer Allianz, Philippine Star, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, National Sports Grill, Rudy Project, Tokyo Tokyo, Accel and 103.5 K Lite.

In ladies singles, Kennie plays opposite Margarita Manalang, who defeated Alma Ledesma, 10-13, 11-4, 11-5.

MARATHON BACKER

Adidas Philippines recently signed an agreement with the 26th National Milo Marathon as the official outfitter and running shoes of the country's most prestigious running event. The marathon kicks off in Davao City on July 7. Shown during the contract signing are (seated from left to right) Angelica Umali, Milo brand manager of Nestle Phils. Inc.; Angelica Suiza, marketing director of Adidas; Jackby Jaime, Milo sports executive of Nestle Phils. Inc.; Joh Alonte, president and managing director of Adidas; (standing from left to right) women's champion Cristabel Martes; Goody Cusotdio, Adidas sports marketing manager, and men's titlist Allan Ballester.

La Salle golfers rip Ateneo

LA SALLE scored a convincing 119-94 victory over arch-rival Ateneo to post a back-to-back win in the La Salle-Ateneo Golf Classic held in Canlubang Golf Club recently.

The Ateneans led 84-80 after two days on the strength of the 30-39 and 40-49 age group big points output as well as the galant stand of the 20-29 and 50-59 groups.

But the La Sallians saved their best for last when they unleashed their Lady, Senior and Junior golfers on the last and deciding day. Ateneo's stand wilted to La Salle's charge as they failed to respond to the onslaught.

The well-attended 15th staging of the tournament was sponsosed by PLDT, Pepsi, Smart, Taylor Made Adidas, Union Bank Visa, Ateneo High School Batch '77 Class 4-A, 4-B, 4-C, 4-D, 4-3, 4-F, 4-G and 4-H, Chemalloy/Valvoline, Cinderella, Custom Clubmakers, Dazzle Mineral Water, Diamond Motors Corp., Flying V/TWA, Foodsphere Inc., Franzia Wine, GAOC Dental, Godiva Skin Care, GG&A, GSM Panasonic, Information Professional Inc., Johnny Air Cargo, Landco, Leisure Farms Tagaytay;

Malayan Insurance, Merisant Sweetner, Metro Pacific Pharma/Inno Derm, Microtel, Mr. Jojo Gamboa, Mr. Jojo Mendiola, Nativa Green Tea, National Sports Grill, Nestle, Nissan Gallery, OMM Citra Metro Manila Tollways Corp., OOCL Philippines Inc., Pascual Laboratories, Perfect Smile Dental Lazer Clinic, Petron Corp., Philippine Maritime Institute, Philippine Air Lines, Rudy Project, Silver Lending Investors Inc., Summer Suites;

Taisho Hizon Mfg./Lipovitan, The Crucible Gallery, The Regalia Group/ASEC Dev't & Const. Corp., TMS Ship Agencies, Inc., TNT Express, Tobi-House of Nuts, True Value, Valle Verde Machinery Inc. and Zenergez Fuel Inc.

Mediana best RP performer

MARTIN Mediana emerged the best Filipino performer by placing second in his division in the just-concluded Volkswagen Singapore Junior Open Garden course Tanah Merah Golf and Country Club in Singapore.

Mediana wound up second in the Class A Division II to highlight the campaign of the Philippine Airlines-backed national delegation which played against representatives from 12 other countries in the region.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1993, Nikon Electric Fan beat Burger Machine, 101-78, to clinch the PBL Maharlika Cup at the Cuneta Astrodome.

US TRIPLE CROWN

War Emblem guns for sweep

NEW YORK—This is some combination: a cocky, outspoken, joke-a-minute trainer and an ornery, black colt who likes to bite.

On Saturday, Bob Baffert will saddle front-running War Emblem and hope the horse will fly past 10 rivals in the Belmont Stakes to become thoroughbred racing's 12th Triple Crown champion.

But even a devil-may-care guy like Baffert knows better than to take the Belmont lightly.

The 1 1/2-mile (2.4 kilometer) oval is the longest and most demanding test of the Triple Crown, which also includes the Kentucky Derby and Preakness. So grueling is this last leg that it has foiled every Triple Crown attempt since 1978, when Affirmed won it.

What's more, Baffert's heart has already been broken here twice before. Once by three-quarters of a length, the other by a nose.

"Fate owes me a Triple Crown," the trainer said.

If War Emblem wins, he will end a 24-year gap between Triple Crown winners.

Baffert, though brash as ever, said he has learned a few lessons since last year, when heavily favored Point Given lost a chance for the Triple Crown right from the start by failing in the Kentucky Derby but winning the Preakness and Belmont.

"We were overconfident," he said. "So I'll just stand here and bite the bullet." He added: "We don't want to mess it up."

Jill Moss, Baffert's fiancee, said the pressure of a third Triple attempt is intense, but "you'll never see Bob sweat."

"He jokes around to relieve his own tension, to lessen the pressure," she said. "He stays busy. He talks. He plays it all out."

Baffert burst onto the Triple Crown scene in 1996, when Cavonnier lost by a nose to Grindstone in the Kentucky Derby. Stung by the loss, the former quarter-horse trainer from Nogales, Arizona, was back a year later with Silver Charm, who tried to win the Triple Crown at Belmont in 1997.

With a quarter-mile (400 meters) to go, Silver Charm appeared to have clear sailing to the wire. Then Touch Gold made a move on the outside and won by three-quarters of a length.

The next year, Baffert figured Real Quiet couldn't lose. In fact, the colt opened a five-length lead with a quarter-mile (400 meters) left. But Victory Gallop won by a nose in a photo finish. *AP*

RP cue artist stuns 'Pearl'

By Dennis Eroa

FAST-RISING Dennis Orcullo posted the biggest win of his young career as he upstaged three-time US Open champion Earl "The Pearl" Strickland, 7-5, to put himself back into contention for a semis slot yesterday in the 2002 Motolite World 9-Ball Challenge at the Araneta Coliseum.

Dubbed as the next billiards star, the 22-year-old Orcullo played with steel nerves and unerring accuracy as he shamed the heavily-favored Strickland for his first win after two straight losses. He needs to beat reigning World Pool champion Mika Immonen today at the end of the preliminaries to stay alive for the remaining semis slot being contested by Filipino cue artists.

Earlier, Filipino legend Efren "Bata" Reyes became the first Filipino semifinalist as he stopped Japanese number one Kunihiro Takahashi, 7-4. Antonio "Nickoy" Lining also entered the win-column after edging Immonen, 7-6, while Francisco "Django" Bustamante, beaten by Strickland in the opener last Thursday, made a fitting follow-up to his 7-2 win over Immonen, by besting reigning US Open titleholder Corey Deuel, 7-4, capping an excellent day for the Philippines.

Sportsman-businessman Aristeo "Putch" Puyat of Puyat Sports expressed delight on the Filipino showings. "I'm really happy with the results. It means our players can be better than the world's bests. But lot of things can still happen."

Andrew gets support

Edwin Villanueva

IN A rare show of unity, the various sectors of the local racing industry have agreed to back the current leadership of the Philippine Racing Commission.

According to my Silip Boy, this solid show of support hasn't happened to any Philracom heads in the past.

"*Nakakagulat,* Boss. *Lahat sumusuporta kay* Sanchez," said my Silip Boy.

Sanchez, of course, is no less than the current Philracom chief Andrew, the former star pelotari who has gained horse racing fame through gallopers like Time Master and Magic Showtime.

Andrew's term as Philracom chair is expiring on July 2 but the Metropolitan Association of Race Horse Owners (Marho) and five other groups want him to be reappointed by President Arroyo.

Marho, under its president Putch Puyat and chair Sandy Javier, said that Sanchez, despite his brief stint as Philracom boss, "has been able to successfully steer the local racing industry to unprecedented heights, with industry sales and revenue contribution reaching an all-time high and the sport gaining tremendous popularity."

The Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders' Organization (Philtobo), meanwhile, said Sanchez "has steered and united this once fragmented industry into a very viable and wholesome entertainment sport, a direction and vision long overdue for horse racing in the country."

The sentiments of Marho and Philtobo were likewise echoed by the Philippine Race Horse Trainers Association, New Philippine Jockeys Association and the Group of Grooms (Sota).

Are the SHOP (Samahan ng mga Horse Owners sa Pilipinas) and the Klub Don Juan de Manila also supporting Sanchez? *Kareristas* are wondering why they haven't been making any statement regarding Sanchez's expiring term.

* * *

***Kareristas* say Andy Sevilla, Bob Novales and Bobok Domingo Jr. are doing great as anchors during races at San Lazaro.**

"Unlike at the other race track, *buhay na buhay ang* coverage *ng karera sa* San Lazaro," wrote Miguel del Castillo of M. Earnshaw, Sampaloc, Manila.

On the other hand, Rolly Sarmiento of Biñan, Laguna said: *"Ganado akong mangarera sa* San Lazaro *kasi maayos ang presentasyon at magagaling ang grupo nila* Andy Sevilla."

Keep it up, guys!

* * *

Light flyweight Harry Tañamor and flyweight Violito Payla made the country proud by ruling their respective divisions in the recent Acropolis Cup boxing tournament in Athens, Greece.

Tañamor and Payla, as well as coach Pat Gaspi, belong to the Philippine Army's Special Services.

I'm sure, their commanding officers, Col. Manuel Mariano and Maj. Edmund Gillamac, are very proud of them.

HUNDRED PRESIDENTS GOLFEST

Lawyer Manny Chan (third from left) receives his trophy and prize from Sandy Prieto Romualdez, president of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, after emerging overall champion of the inaugural Hundred Presidents Invitational tournament of the Inquirer Golf Monthly and GG&A Club Shares recently at Sta. Elena. Looking on (from left) are IGM editor Jong Arcano and Eddie Galvez, president of GG&A.

Cantada Arena hosts 'Fistorama' bouts

SAN MIGUEL Beer's "Fistorama" today features Randy Casinillo against Robert Niegas in the junior bantamweight division and Romualdo Mahinay against Jhon del Yabut in the junior featherweight class in two very exciting six-rounders.

The fights were held recently at the state-of-the-art Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Taguig, Metro Manila.

Fistorama is produced by Joe Cantada Sports and presented by San Miguel Beer.

Today's show is sponsored by Fortune International Filter Kings.

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Nakagayak 2. Loaded 3. Classic Star
Race 2—1. Sanry Forex 2. Golden Dave 3. Sweep Away
Race 3—1. Roppongi 2. Speed Charm 3. Power Corrupts 4. Moving Target 5. Ananpour 6. Silver Music
Race 4—1. Kay Gee Em Ey 2. Red Anya 3. Patikim
Race 5—1. Golden Ballet 2. Terrific 3. Art of Rose 4. Lord of All 5. Baby Lite
Race 6—1. Valiant Queen 2. Roman Music 3. Two Thumbs Up
Race 7—1. Spectacular Queen 2. Loose Cannon 3. Goloden Disc 4. Spirited Lady 5. Winning Rose
Race 8—1. Wind Blown 2. High Roller 3. Dream Play 4. Astuce
Race 9—1. Lady Witty 2. Dragon Doding 3. Wendy's Pride
Race 10—1. Ticket to Fame 2. Tender Value 3. Steel Wheel 4. Nagniningning 5. Fire Task
Race 11—1. Cheese Laffongga 2. Lucky Gambit 3. Impeccable 4. Dominant Dancer 5. D Barrister 6. Happy Return
Race 12—1. Always Florence 2. Mighty Strong 3. Free Time
Race 13—1. Mica's Magic 2. What A Spell/Irish Star 3. Tumataginting 4. Royal Worship 5. Bullhorn
Race 14—1. Yes Sir 2. Imus Emperor/Al's Princess 3. Ong Bee 4. Key to Heaven 5. Kathy Rose 6. Sweet Inspiration

BINAY CUP

Makati Mayor Jejomar "Jojo" Binay (second from left) awards the winner's cup to trainer Dr. Panfilo Oliva, representing horse owner Augusto Benedicto Santos, following the victory of Sky Hawk in the Binay Cup stakes race last June 1st at the Santa Ana Park. Also shown, from left, are Philracom Chair Andrew Sanchez and Philippine Racing Club Inc. executive director and deputy CEO Solomon Cua.

Laurente defense set June 15

PHILIPPINE Champion Dennis Laurente is out to exact revenge when he battles Indonesian Ferdinan in his first defense of the Orient Pacific Boxing Federation lightweight crown in the "War at the Casino" on June 15 at the Casino Filipino in Parañaque City.

The 26-year-old Laurente, from Palumpon, Leyte, lost via a home-town decision when both met in Jakarta last year.

Last November, Laurente was given a crack at the OPBF crown and won it over defending Yosuke Otsuka of Japan.

Laurente has ring record of 17-2-2, with 10 knockouts.

For more details, call the Elorde Sports Center at 820-9543 and 826-4463.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SunDaySPORTS

Editor Al S. Mendoza • Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2002

LOTTO 6/42

20 39 36 24 2 8 Luzon

17 36 42 8 11 19 Vis-/ Min

SIX DIGIT

5 6 9 3 5 1

(in exact order)

MA. Melizza Lucas of NCR churns to victory in the girls' 100m breaststroke (elementary division). ROMY HOMILLADA

NCR dominates Palaro rivals

By Marc Anthony Reyes

NAGA CITY—With the overall championship in both categories virtually in the bag, the National Capital Region's gold rush momentarily tapered off, leaving Southern Tagalog and Western Visayas pounding it out for second place honors yesterday in the Palarong Pambansa at the Metro Naga Sports Complex here.

Apparently satisfied over its success in swimming, gymnastics, taekwondo and archery, NCR slowed down under the weight of its 61 gold medals (30 in elementary and 31 in secondary), while Southern Tagalog and Western Visayas gained in ball games wherein gold medal count was based on the number of players in each game.

That's exactly how Southern Tagalog managed to stay among the leaders after winning the elementary boys' baseball to earn nine golds yesterday.

Region 4 now has an 18-10-9 tally in elementary and 17-17-11 in secondary, while Region 6 holds a 15-10-13 and 14-5-9 medal counts, respectively.

With half of its 400-strong delegation coming from Manila, NCR has amassed 30 golds, nine silvers and 13 bronzes in elementary and 31 golds, 16 silvers and 18 bronzes in the high school division. Yesterday, it won the girls' elementary volleyball for six golds and the girls secondary 200m run through Honey Joy Ortaliz.

Western Visayas also picked up three golds in the track oval with Yenny Mahilum snatching her third victory yesterday after ruling the girls' elementary 200m with a 27:43 clocking, and Marigen Campos Visayas copping the gold in the girls' secondary 3,000m. Ronald Servidad ruled the 5,000m run late Friday.

In volleyball, NCR defeated Eastern Visayas to take the gold in the elementary girls' division, while Southern Mindanao edged Eastern Visayas for the elementary boys' title.

NCR's dominance also reached the chess hall with Joel Cholo Banawa and Nelson Mariano III crushing their counterparts from Ilocos region to capture the boys' elementary team crown. Northern Mindanao's Sillie Halia Sabo and Sherlyn Dagandan topped the girls' side.

In secondary chess, Jayson Salubre and Neil Abayon of Southern Mindanao prevailed over Central Visayas chessers for the boys' team title, while Ezraline Alvarez and Evangeline Alcantara of host Bicol region defeated the NCR team for the girls' team plum.

O'NEAL: Too strong for Nets. AFP

Shaquille powers LA to 2-0 lead

LOS ANGELES—In another display of his massive superiority, Shaquille O'Neal had such a great game that even his free throw shooting was stunning. Scoring 40 points and doing just about nothing wrong, O'Neal led the Los Angeles Lakers to a 106-83 victory over the New Jersey Nets.

The Lakers took a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven NBA Finals after Friday's game, toying with their opponents while never trailing. Los Angeles led by as many as 20 points, let the Nets creep back within six early in the fourth and then quickly ended any comeback thoughts New Jersey might have had.

The most memorable image from this game may have been O'Neal standing at the foul line, his right arm extended in a follow-through as he watched free throw after free throw go in. The Nets sent the notoriously poor foul shooter to the line 14 times, and O'Neal knocked down a dozen of them while showing a surprisingly soft touch.

Kobe Bryant added a quiet 24 points and Derek Fisher had 12 for the Lakers, who can win their third consecutive championship and give coach Phil Jackson his ninth title in 12 years by winning just two more games.

Game 3 is Sunday night (Monday morning in Manila) at New Jersey, just a few miles from O'Neal's hometown of Newark. And unless the Nets find a way to contain him, their prospects of bringing the series back to Los Angeles are rather slim. AP

Coseteng eyes another win

THE COUNTRY'S top competition drivers set the road on fire anew in the resumption of the 2002 SVI-Petron Grand Prix at the newly improved Subic International Raceway in Subic this weekend.

Two-time circuit racing champion Jody Coseteng seeks another decisive victory in the centerpiece Blaze super saloon series, while Monching Gutierrez guns for his third win in the SVI Challenge Cup in the prestigious 14-part series organized by Sports Values Inc. in cooperation with Petron.

"I'll go for the win, but I know it will not be easy with all the good drivers around," said Coseteng, who is being supported by Caltex, Autoplus and Red Horse.

All-Spanish final

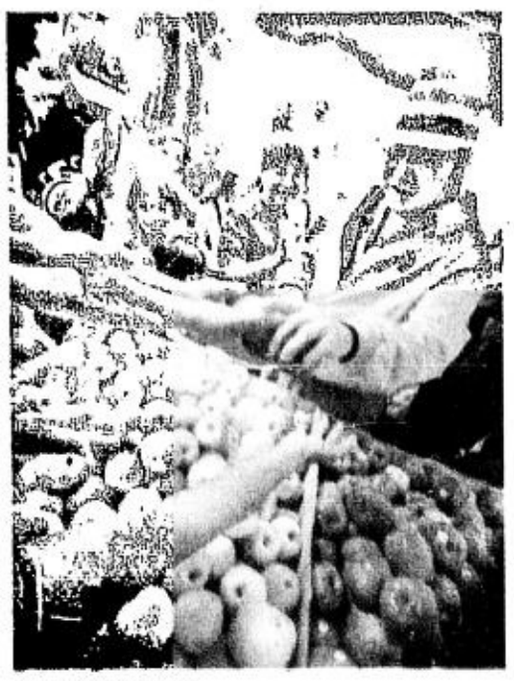
PARIS—It's time for a fiesta. "I'm going to play with another Spaniard, so I think it's a party - a Spanish party in the final. So for sure, we're going to enjoy the match," said Juan Carlos Ferrero, after advancing Friday to the championship of the French Open against compatriot Albert Costa.

No. 11-seeded Ferrero beat Russian Marat Safin, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4, while Costa eliminated the best man at his wedding next week, No. 18 Alex Corretja, 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. AP

METRO

Editor Louie C. Camino

Tourism trains 1,000 'tourist cops' /A26



FREE FRUITS
Children and adults reach out for the fruits being given away by Manila Mayor Lito Atienza during his visit to the newly built stalls for vendors on Villalobos Street in Quiapo. ERIK ARAZAS

Dads promote 'phonethics'

By Jerome Aning

MANILA councilors are pushing a comprehensive "phonethics" ordinance that will govern the use of cell phones in churches, movie houses and other public places in the city.

The city council's committees on laws and on justice and human rights have approved a proposal that would ban the use of cell phones in places where they could cause disturbance and irritation.

The author of the measure, Councilor Ma. Asuncion Fugoso, said that although cell phones are important in people's daily activities, their users should respect the other

DADS PROMOTE/ A26

Coming back home

By Christian V. Esguerra

LIKE a prodigal daughter, she went astray but found her way back home.

Elizabeth, now 21, got lost early in life. At 5, she began selling rags to motorists along Ramon Magsaysay Boulevard. Her mother was a fish vendor. She has two younger brothers who were too young to go to school but old enough to join her in the streets. She hardly knew about her father. According to her mother, Elizabeth's father had three other wives and several other children.

One evening after a day's work, she came home to her family's shanty only to be ravished by a relative who lived nearby.

That was the first of many sexual abuses that would drive Elizabeth close to the edge of sanity. "Of all people, why me?" she often asked herself.

She had no one to turn to. She wished her father could keep her safe from their relatives. But she didn't even know if he remembered her. Her mother did not have the slightest idea that Elizabeth badly needed help.

COMING BACK/ A26

Smoking crackdown in Makati

By Alcuin Papa

THE MAKATI government is poised to launch a crackdown on smokers with a proposed ban on smoking in all enclosed public places in the city such as malls, restaurants, bars and public buildings.

The city council is deliberating on draft ordinance No. 2002-089 that would enforce the ban. The proposal cites worldwide concern over the health risks posed by smoking and "passive smoking."

The ordinance, which is on its first reading, came after Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay recently issued a memorandum to the heads of all city departments which says smoking is allowed only in fully enclosed rooms equipped with a "strong and effective exhaust system."

However, Binay recently noted that nonsmoking areas in most establishments in the city are useless because smoke from the smoking area is "not expelled properly and there-

SMOKING/ A26

RED-RIBBON DAY
The ribbons in glass jar held by this girl were used by participants in the 19th International AIDS candlelight memorial held recently at the Acropolis and Eastwood City in Libis, Quezon City. At least 40 children joined the whole-day activity organized by the AIDS Society of the Philippines and supported by GlaxoSmithKline Philippines. It featured a children's art workshop and a photo exhibit focused on preventing the dreaded disease.

METROBRIEFS

Ambushed in Taguig

BADRODIN Tambako Masabpi, 36, a barangay council candidate in Taguig, was killed in an ambush yesterday, police said. Supt. Rodolfo Sison, Taguig police chief, said Masabpi's companions, Aleman L. Akmad, 58, Masukat T. Tumindeg, 30, and Abdul Razak, 28, all residents of Barangay Maharlika Village, were also wounded when three men fired at their green Mitsubishi Lancer (TAZ-513) on Berera Street in Maharlika Village about 7:30 a.m. Masabpi, 36, a native of Maguindanao, was set to run in the July 16 local elections under the ticket of Taguig Mayor Freddie Tinga, according to PO3 Alain Sigua. Insp. Virgilio Pagtama, chief of the Taguig Investigation Division, believed the killing was politically motivated. Masabpi's companions are being treated for gunshot wounds at the Rizal Medical Center, police said. *Alcuin Papa*

Attacked in Sta. Ana

FIVE people were injured when an unidentified gunman opened fire at a funeral wake in Sta. Ana, Manila before dawn yesterday. Lucia Reyes, 72, Melda Batuon, 44, and Rodelio Alentejo, 21, all residents of Pasig Line; Rolando Dureza, 36, of Arellano Street, Sta. Ana, and Romeo Pascual, 45, of Bocaue, Bulacan, suffered gunshot wounds and were taken to the Philippine General Hospital in Ermita for treatment, said Insp. Arthur Estebel of Western Police District Station 8. Witnesses told police they saw the armed man in front of the house on Arellano Street where a wake was being held. At 3 a.m., the gunman burst into the house and began shooting until he ran out of bullets, Estebel said. Police withheld the identity of the suspect pending his arrest. *Jerome Aning*

Stabbed in Fairview

TRAFFIC enforcer Celso Ordoñez on Friday was stabbed dead when he tried to issue a traffic violation receipt to a man caught driving a "colorum" passenger jeepney in Fairview, Quezon City. Ordoñez, 47, of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority and resident of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, was stabbed twice and died on the way to the Far Eastern University Hospital, police said. Police said Ordoñez flagged down the jeepney driven by Joel Incedente about 7 p.m. Friday on Quirino Highway, near SM Fairview in Quezon City after he noticed that the vehicle was "out of line." Incedente, of Sta. Mesa, Manila, refused to accept the TVR and instead attempted to bribe Ordoñez, police said. Tempers flared when Ordoñez refused the bribe, and Incedente pulled out a fan knife and stabbed him. Police identified Incedente through his driver's license, which he left with the victim. *Tina Santos*

Electrocuted in Magallanes

MAINTENANCE man Rodrigo Nobot was electrocuted when he tried to pick *santol* from a tree at his employer's residence in Magallanes Village, Makati City on Tuesday. Nobot, 39, of West Crame, San Juan, Metro Manila, went to his employer's house to fix the water tank when, about 12:45 p.m., he decided to climb a *santol* tree and, using a metal rod, tried to pick its fruits, said PO2 Juvenal Barbosa of the Makati Police. But the rod touched an exposed live wire from an electric post beside the tree. Barbosa said Nobot fell and hit his head on a concrete wall before landing on a metal fence. The victim died on the way to the Philippine General Hospital, said Barbosa. *Alcuin Papa, Kelly Gelvezon, Analiza Malvar*

Raped in Makati

A WOMAN told police that a foreigner drugged her and sexually abused her in his Makati City residence Tuesday night. The 23-year-old woman said John Esatlan picked her up in Ermita, Manila about 8 p.m., and took her to his house on Taguig Street in Barangay Valenzuela, Makati City. She said Esatlan forced her to take "shabu" and raped her. She told PO2 Mylene Juan of the Women and Children Protection Desk that when she awoke, she found herself alone. Barangay Valenzuela watchmen found her walking aimlessly and brought her to the police station. *Alcuin Papa, Kelly Gelvezon, Analiza Malvar*

Injured in Guadalupe

WORKER Eleuterio Cruz was seriously injured when slabs of granite fell on him in Makati City yesterday. Cruz, 22, a stay-in worker of the Italica Home Décor Inc. on Ramon Magsaysay Street in Barangay Guadalupe Nuevo, was unloading 90 pieces of granite slabs from a container van when the wooden brace holding the slabs in place gave way, said PO2 Juvenal Barbosa of the Makati Police. The stones fell on Cruz and on fellow worker, Abam Abadines, 29, of Montalban, Rizal. A third worker, Francisco Torredo, 45, was able to jump out of harm's way. Police said Abadines' condition was stable, but Cruz was reported to be in critical state at the Ospital ng Makati. *Alcuin Papa*

Crash in Valenzuela

FOUR people were injured when a six-wheeler truck collided with a Honda Civic on the North Luzon Expressway in Valenzuela City early Friday morning. Moises Pineda, 52, his wife Myrna, 52, Rosario Sta. Maria, 58, and Iluminada Pineda, 53, all of Imus, Cavite, are undergoing treatment at the Montefalco Hospital in Meycauayan, Bulacan. A Philippine National Construction Corp. report said the Honda Civic (VCJ-486) of the Pinedas for some reason crossed the traffic island and found its way on the opposite side of the expressway at about 1:30 a.m. The car collided head-on with the Pampanga-bound truck (UTN-609) driven by Freddie Calayag. *Tina Santos*

Wrecked in Malabon

BUSINESSMAN Jose Generosa Jr. was arrested for driving his car and ruining a newly cemented road early Friday morning in Malabon City. Generosa, 43, of Tugatog, Malabon, was allegedly drunk and even introduced himself as a policeman and a staff member of Malabon City Mayor Amado Vicencio. Engineer Eduardo Aloven of the Department of Public Works and Highways branch in Malabon said Generosa insisted on driving his pick-up on Sevilla Street in Potrero at about 1 a.m., despite a sign saying the road was newly cemented. Generosa reportedly destroyed at least 15 meters of the newly cemented portion. He was arrested when he rammed into a pile of sand. *Tina Santos*

Coming back home

From page A25

After years of many sleepless nights and occasional tantrums, Elizabeth found company at the Laura Vicuña Foundation compound on V. Mapa Extension in Sta. Mesa, Manila, home to hundreds of street children being reared by the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians.

In 1990, Elizabeth found her way back.

Under the guidance of the Salesian nuns, Elizabeth, then 10 years old, found peers among other children who were either abused by their parents or addicted to drugs. Most of them had no formal education.

Opening up

"Here we rehabilitate children to become productive citizens who can stand on their own," says Sister Ma. Victoria Sta. Ana, executive director of the Laura Vicuña Foundation.

It took Elizabeth several visits to the foundation before she finally opened up, Sta. Ana recalls.

"At first, she was very quiet," the nun says. "She only played with the other kids and never talked to us. But one day she cried and told us the problem she had been keeping for so long."

The girl cried, and that was a good start for someone like Elizabeth who had endured too much, according to Sta. Ana.

From Sta. Mesa, Elizabeth, then a Grade 1 pupil, was transferred to the foundation center in Cubao, Quezon City where she would undergo the rehabilitation program with other rape victims for the next six years.

The foundation's next mission, Sta. Ana says, was to bridge the wide gap between Elizabeth and her mother who found out about the sexual attacks on her daughter only after the Salesians told her.

"The children's reintegration into their family is very important," the nun says. "The foundation is just here to provide support. They still need their family."

Holding back

Elizabeth's mother's initial reaction was repulsion. She couldn't understand her daughter being "taken away from her" by a group of nuns who promised help. She felt she needed no help.

"This is another area we address," explains Sta. Ana. "We want parents to understand that we're here to help, not to compete for their children's affection."

Still, Elizabeth's mother refused to yield.

The nuns soon found out what had been holding back the mother. Like Elizabeth, the mother had skeletons in her closet that she was not ready to deal with. Her own relatives had physically abused her. Her own mother, Elizabeth's grandmother, was a battered wife.

Sta, Ana says a history of violence greatly affects a person's life especially during the formative years. The person would most likely commit the same mistakes committed by those who came before her.

It wasn't long before Elizabeth committed her own. She suddenly left the foundation to look for "something missing." She was 15.

Sta. Ana says Elizabeth's departure didn't surprise her. She knew the girl was going through an experience common to rape victims like her. This was the time when the girl most needed the foundation's help, according to the nun.

Saying enough

Elizabeth, gifted with a good voice, now recalls that she almost landed a job in a karaoke bar as a guest relations officer. She returned to her mother only to be forced to marry a 19-year-old family friend. She said she didn't like the guy so she defied her mother and went back to the foundation.

Two years later, Elizabeth fell in love with a neighbor. She told him her story. She said he accepted her and promised to take care of her. Again, she left the foundation and settled with her husband in the province. It was Mistake No. 2.

Soon, she gave birth to a baby girl. And soon, too, she discovered the man she had just married.

"He was a drug addict and ill-tempered," she says. "He would threaten to kill me with a knife. But I would remain calm and try to talk my way out (of the situation)."

In 1998 Elizabeth said enough was enough. She ran away from her abusive husband, brought her daughter with her in Manila, and again sought the help of the Laura Vicuña Foundation. She found work the day after she arrived.

Elizabeth is now working for an insurance company in Makati and is taking up a computer science course at the same time. She has also served as elder sister to street children, trying to help get their life back on track through the foundation.

"I'm studying now to make sure that the cycle will not happen to my daughter," Elizabeth says. "I'm determined now."

The prodigal daughter is back.

LBC Foundation's Jose Garcia (left) and Books for the Barangay's Ernie Wijangco turn over books to pupils in Binangonan, Rizal.

Manila's Finest back return of control to LGUs

By Jerome Aning

THE ASSOCIATION of Manila policemen has expressed support for the move to give police control and supervision back to local government units.

The Manila's Finest Brotherhood Association aired this position in a May 30 letter to Mayor Lito Atienza.

The MFBA, composed of policemen ranked SPO4 and below, was reacting to the reported plans by Camp Crame to abolish the five police districts in Metro Manila and turn over their functions to the National Capital Regional Police Office.

The MFBA officials said they wanted to preserve the integrity and heritage of the Western Police District as the first local police unit in the country.

"Full administration and operational control over policemen in Metro Manila by the NCRPO might lead to dictatorial management," they said.

The organization also stressed that local executives should have greater access in managing police.

Atienza reiterated his position that "the best way to improve the peace and order situation in the metropolis is to make the police force accountable to local chief executives."

"Local officials like us are often blamed when a crime occurs even when we don't have control over the police," he lamented.

Dads promote . . .

From page A25

people's right to have quiet surroundings while inside churches, movie houses or public libraries.

"Modern day technology should not erase the traditional concept of public places established for worship, study and recreation where silence and concentration is precious," Fugoso said.

The third district councilor wants first-time violators fined P500. A second violation will mean a fine of P1,000.

Those caught for the third and succeeding times will be fined P3,000, made to undergo 72 hours of community work, or both.

Also covered by Fugoso's bill are two-way radios, laser pin lights and other electronic gadgets.

In its report, the city's committee on laws said it believes the measure would "impose orderliness and inculcate discipline" among the users of cell phones and the other gadgets.

But the council wants all public places that will be covered by the ordinance to be specifically identified.

The justice committee said "the right to enjoy some peace and quiet is a basic human right and should be respected by everyone."

Some councilors, however, want to know who specifically will implement the ordinance and how violators will be apprehended.

One councilor said that accosting and arresting a violator could result in greater noise and disturbance.

Fugoso's bill merely requires the posting of copies of the ordinance in the premises of churches, movie houses, theaters and public libraries.

Smoking . . .

From page A25

fore reaches non-smokers, too."

According to the anti-smoking ordinance, all areas inside a building which the public has access to shall be declared no-smoking areas, with violators facing stiff penalties.

To make things harder for smokers in the city, Makati councilors are also studying the imposition of higher fees for groceries, supermarkets, convenience stores and sari-sari stores that sell cigarettes.

The ordinance, if passed, would also ban the sale of cigarettes by ambulant vendors.

Smokers who throw cigarette butts in the city's streets will also be fined, according to the proposal.

Public hearings on the proposed ordinance have yet to be conducted.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), exposure to second-hand smoke also causes respiratory diseases.

It said 3.5 million to 4 million people die every year worldwide from tobacco-related disease. The figure is expected to increase by 10 million, WHO said.

The Makati City government earlier banned the sale of tobacco products to minors.

Friendship photo show

THE PHILIPPINE Colleges and Universities China Studies Association (PCUCSA) kicks off its celebration of Filipino-Chinese Friendship Day with a photo symposium, "A Glimpse of China, the Past and the Present," that will showcase more than 150 pictures of cultural developments in China.

The photo exhibit, also sponsored by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, will be featured in an eight-campus tour starting today at the ICCT Colleges in Cainta, Rizal. The other schools are the University of Asia and the Pacific, Feati University, the University of the East in Manila and in Caloocan, De La Salle Antipolo, the Philippine Normal University and the Southern Luzon College.

PCUCSA president William S. Co said Filipino-Chinese Friendship Day is being celebrated by the higher education sector in "true recognition of the significance of the friendship ties between the two countries."

"The public is invited to join and watch the photo exhibit," Co said, adding that no entrance fee will be charged.

For more information, call PCUCSA at 249-1049 or 249-1176 and look for Judy.

Foundation brings books to barrios

LBC FOUNDATION'S core mission is to improve children's education, and it is carrying this out by distributing books among underprivileged children.

LBC, the largest Filipino-owned courier company in the Philippines, is giving back to the community it has been serving for 50 years.

LBC Foundation is a non-stock, non-profit organization. In partnership with the United States-based Books for the Barrios Inc., LBC Foundation has been able to realize its mission.

Books for the Barrios is a non-profit, all-volunteer corporation which brings quality education materials, procured from children in the United States, to the most remote, disadvantaged, depressed elementary schools in the Philippines.

LBC Foundation recently pledged to deliver the contents of a 40-foot container filled with books, learning materials, computers and toys.

The LBC Foundation has made it possible for more than 250 schools from Aparri to Basilan to receive the much needed educational materials.

In a recent ceremony, the foundation's Jose Garcia turned over books to students of the Doña Susana Madrigal School in Binangonan, Rizal.

Tourism trains 1,000 'tourist cops'

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism has announced the training and deployment of 1,000 policemen as "tourist police" to help ensure that visitors in the country's tourist spots would have a safe and hassle-free stay in the Philippines.

Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon said the tourist policemen, who are among the 5,670 new graduates of the Philippine National Police Academy, are undergoing orientation with the DOT.

Gordon made the announcement to delegates of 18 Asian countries that participated in the 31st SKAL Asia Area Assembly at the Philippine Plaza Hotel late last month.

The secretary told the delegates that tourism promotion is being boosted by no less than President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo with her visits to many places of interest in the country.

He said the President showed her seriousness in helping the travel and tour industry when she designated the DOT as a "super Cabinet" body.

He said he took that as a cue that the President is aware of what tourism can do to help alleviate poverty, specifically the creation of jobs and business opportunities in the tourism industry.

SKAL is an international travel industry organization. It is an acronym of four Scandinavian words—sundhet for health, karlek for love, alder for long life and lycka for happiness.

The SKAL movement was organized in the country 50 years ago. Its members are travel professionals who are either owners or chief executive officers of wholesale and retail tour agencies. *Jerome Aning*

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4	MURDER BY NUMBERS
5	RESIDENT EVIL
6	CASS & CARY
7	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
8	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

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1	CASS & CARY
2	DRAGONFLY
3	MURDER BY NUMBERS
4	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
5	A WALK TO REMEMBER
6	JIHAD WARRIOR
7	STAR WARS
8	PANIC ROOM
9	RESIDENT EVIL
10	KILABOT AT KEMBOT

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
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1	DRAGONFLY
2	MURDER BY NUMBERS
3	JIHAD WARRIOR
4	STAR WARS
5	RESIDENT EVIL
6	CASS & CARY
7	A WALK TO REMEMBER
8	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
9	SELDA
10	40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
11	SPIDER-MAN
12	PANIC ROOM

SM CITY MANILA
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1	STAR WARS
2	PANIC ROOM
3	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
4	A WALK TO REMEMBER
5	MURDER BY NUMBERS
6	RESIDENT EVIL
7	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
8	SPIDER-MAN
9	CASS & CARY
10	DRAGONFLY
11	JIHAD WARRIOR
12	A WALK TO REMEMBER

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1	A WALK TO REMEMBER
2	MURDER BY NUMBERS
3	RESIDENT EVIL
4	A WALK TO REMEMBER
5	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
6	DRAGONFLY
7	PANIC ROOM
8	JIHAD WARRIOR
9	CASS & CARY
10	STAR WARS
11	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
12	SPIDER-MAN

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	RESIDENT EVIL
2	STAR WARS
3	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
4	CASS & CARY
5	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
6	DRAGONFLY
7	MURDER BY NUMBRS
8	A WALK TO REMEMBER
9	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
10	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
11	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
12	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM SOUTHMALL
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1	DRAGONFLY
2	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
3	A WALK TO REMEMBER
4	MURDER BY NUMBERS
5	SELDA
6	PANIC ROOM
7	CASS & CARY
8	RESIDENT EVIL
9	STAR WARS
10	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	STAR WARS
2	JIHAD WARRIOR
3	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
4	SNOW DOGS
5	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
6	FRUIT IS SWELLING
7	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
8	CASS & CARY

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	BENEATH LOCHNESS
2	CLOSED
3	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
4	JASON-X
5	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
6	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
7	CLOSED
8	STAR WARS

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	RESIDENT EVIL
2	JIHAD WARRIOR
3	DRAGONFLY
4	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
5	LIGAYA PANTASYA . . .
6	CASS & CARY

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
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1	MURDER BY NUMBERS
2	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
3	A WALK TO REMEMBER
4	DRAGONFLY

SM CINEMA GUADALUPE
8820984

1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	MURDER BY NUMBERS
2	DRAGONFLY
3	CASS & CARY
4	KILABOT AT KEMBOT

SM CITY DAVAO
2916998

1	JASON-X
2	HARDBALL
3	SNOW DOGS
4	BENEATH TO LOCHNESS
5	STAR WARS
6	CROSSROADS

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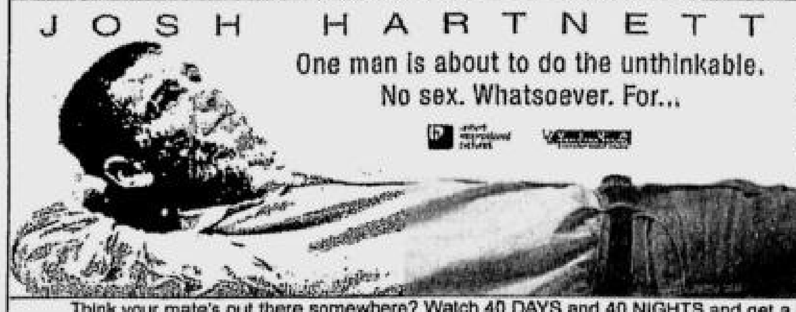

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5 GOLD (DOLBY) A WALK TO REMEMBER
6 GOLD (SDDS) 40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
7 GOLD (DOLBY) DRAGONFLY
8 CASS & CARY
9 KILABOT AT KEMBOT
10 PANIC ROOM

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5 RESERVE
6 (DTS) RESERVE
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2 MURDER BY NUMBERS
3 CASS & CARY

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1 KILABOT AT KEMBOT
2 CASS & CARY
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4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) MURDER BY NUMBERS
5 SELDA

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1 WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
2 SELDA
3 KILABOT AT KEMBOT
4 CASS & CARY
5 DRAGONFLY
6 MURDER BY NUMBERS
7
8

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3 SELDA

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1 SELDA
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Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

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3 CASS & CARY
4

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2
3
4 SELDA
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6 RESERVE
7 (DTS) 40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
8 (SDDS) DRAGONFLY
9 (DOLBY) A WALK TO REMEMBER

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2 SELDA

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3 SELDA
4 (SDDS) DRAGONFLY
5 WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
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8 STAR WARS
9 LIGAYA PANTASYA . . .

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3
4 SELDA
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7 (DOLBY) DRAGONFLY
8 KILABOT AT KEMBOT

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3
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5 KILABOT AT KEMBOT

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2 CASS & CARY
3 (DTS) DRAGONFLY

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
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1 CASS & CARY
2 (DTS) RESIDENT EVIL
3 (DOLBY) DRAGONFLY
4 MURDER BY NUMBERS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1 CASS & CARY
2 (DOLBY) DRAGONFLY
3 (DTS) MURDER BY NUMBERS
4 JIHAD WARRIOR

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 KILABOT AT KEMBOT
2 STAR WARS
3
4

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1 KILABOT AT KEMBOT
2 K-PAX
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4 (DTS) DEATH TO SMOOCHY

Lianas Cinema
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2 SELDA
3 CASS & CARY
4 (DTS) WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW

Lianas MovieCity
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1 (DOLBY) DRAGONFLY
2 KILABOT AT KEMBOT
3 (DTS) MURDER BY NUMBERS
4 CASS & CARY
5 LIGAYA PANTASYA . . .

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
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1 MURDER BY NUMBERS
2 KILABOT AT KEMBOT
3 CASS & CARY

Olivarez Los Baños
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1 MURDER BY NUMBERS
2 CASS & CARY
3 DRAGONFLY

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1 STARS WARS
2 SPIDER-MAN
3 LIGAYA PANTASYA

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(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

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2
3

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1 (DTS) KILABOT AT KEMBOT
2 (DTS) CASS & CARY

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

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1 CASS & CARY
2 STAR WARS
3 KILABOT AT KEMBOT

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2 DEATH TO SMOOCHY
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6	RESIDENT EVIL
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8	STAR WARS
9	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
10	PANIC ROOM

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3	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
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6	MURDER BY NUMBERS
7	A WALK TO REMEMBER

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2	PANIC ROOM
3	RESIDENT EVIL
4	A WALK TO REMEMBER
5	MURDER BY NUMBERS
6	40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
7	STAR WARS
8	KILABOT AT KEMBOT

Novaliches 935-3229-30

1	STAR WARS 2
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	PANIC ROOM
4	RESIDENT EVIL
5	MURDER BY NUMBERS
6	40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
7	DRAGONFLY
8	KILABOT AT KEMBOT

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1	DRAGONFLY
2	WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
3	MURDER BY NUMBERS
4	A WALK TO REMEMBER
5	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
6	RESIDENT EVIL

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5	7 DAYS TO LIVE
6	BENEATH LOCHNESS

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2	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
3	JASON-X
4	BENEATH LOCHNESS
5	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
6	SANA TOTOO NA

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6	DRAGONFLY

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INTERCONTINENTAL BROADCASTING CORPORATION IBC 13

Jennifer Connelly stars in 'The Street'

VIEWERS who admired **Jennifer Connelly**'s performance in "A Beautiful Mind" should look her up again in the new TV series "The Street," which airs on Studio 23 every Sunday at 9:30 p.m., starting June 9.

Set against the hectic backdrop of Wall Street's financial district, "The Street" delves into the stressful careers and private lives of young financial wheelers and dealers.

The male hotshots are Jack Kenderson (**Tom Everett Scott**), former Navy Seal Mark McConnell (**Sean Maher**), salesman par excellence Freddie Sacker (**Rick Hoffman**), trading boss Tom Divack (**Giancarlo Esposito**), Wharton grad Tim Sherman (**Christian Campbell**), and research analyst Adam Mitchell (**Adam Goldberg**).

Where does Jennifer Connelly's character fit in all this? She's the new vice president for Sales, Catherine Miller, who's determined to make her mark in the business world, even if it means leaving her past behind.

Other female comers out to change the status quo at the venerable Balmont Stevens, Inc. trading house are investment banker Alexandra Brill (**Nina Garbiras**) and streetsmart and ambitious receptionist Donna Pasqua (**Melissa De Sousa**).

Joining this TV drama series is a good move on Connelly's part because it will reinforce on a regular part basis the strong impression her performance in "A Beautiful Mind" made on viewer.

She may have attained authentic stardom rather late in the game, but she's still young enough to consolidate and build on her gains, particularly with this new TV series.

Tribute to women directors

EVERY Thursday this month, Viva Cinema Presents pays tribute to some of the country's women directors, with screenings at 8 p.m. of some of their most interesting movies.

Last June 6, the weekly series

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

led off with **Marilou Diaz-Abaya**'s "Baby Tsina," starring **Vilma Santos** as the famous underworld figure in the '50s.

On June 13, at the film on view is **Lupita Kashiwahara**'s "Hati Tayo sa Magdamag," starring **Edu Manzano, Jaclyn Jose, Tetchi Agbayani** and the late **Eddie Rodriguez**. Edu is forced to sacrifice his love for Jaclyn to achieve his ambitions, but he must finally decide between them and the young woman he really loves.

On June 20, **Laurice Guillen**'s "Apoy sa Puso" topbills **Dawn Zulueta, Ricky Davao, Gary Estrada** and **Bing Loyzaga**. The compelling love story unfolds during an eruption of Taal Volcano.

And on June 27, Marilou Diaz-Abaya's "Minsan Pa Natin Hagkan" stars **Vilma Santos, Christopher de Leon** and **Eddie Garcia**. Vilma's character is torn between her loyalty to the man who has promised to give her child a good future, and the real father of her child.

Talent Night

COUPLES for Christ is sponsoring the first National GK Trade and Agri Fair (Basta Pinoy, Ang Galing!) from June 15 to 23 at the Marikina Riverbanks, Marikina City. This is a tribute to the greatness of the Filipino artist, craftsman, designer, farmer and entrepreneur.

At 7 p.m. on June 16, a Talent Night will be held at the amphitheater, to be participated in by amateur singers from different parts of the country.

(We were invited to chair the board of judges but have had to decline because our play on Padre Pio will have a special performance in Quezon City that same night.)

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LILIPAD NA SA JUNE 12

FOR GENERAL Patronage. Joyce Jimenez and Piolo Pascual in "I Think I'm in Love."

Joyce gets wholesome, but not for good

JOYCE Jimenez in a wholesome flick? That's no longer impossible, even to the male population which still looks at Joyce as a sex object.

In her latest film, the light romance-drama "I Think I'm in Love," Joyce does go wholesome and has no sex scenes at all. She insists, however, that even if she is starring in a feel-good movie, she is not about to give up her seductive image.

"Whatever role I play, people will still look at me as a sexy star," she says. "I don't feel bad about that and I can't do anything about it. But I hope to be able to play really serious roles in the future."

Joyce wanders into the GP (General Patronage) territory with "I Think I'm in Love." Her previous films were normally restricted to adult viewers. Now, even the young girls, who giggle at the sight of her partner **Piolo Pascual**, can watch her on the big screen.

"You can take your family to the movie," she says.

"Of course, there are projects which I also turn down," she says. "If the role doesn't fit me, I say no. Like if they want me to play a *probinsiyana*, which is not really believable."

But she says she wants to do roles similar to those she has seen in Hollywood films like "End of

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

the Affair" starring **Ralph Fiennes** and **Julianne Moore**. "It's a nice love story," she says. Or "The Story of Us" with **Michelle Pfeiffer** and **Bruce Willis**.

Joyce also wants to do a suspense thriller like "What Lies Beneath," which starred Michelle Pfeiffer and **Harrison Ford**.

"I also admired **Ashley Judd** in 'Double Jeopardy'," she says. "I like woman-power kind of movies."

In "I Think I'm in Love," Joyce and Piolo present a package of boy-meets-girl thrills.

"This film has a very contemporary approach," Joyce says. "It is about falling in love. It has a lot of wit and humor. Many couples out there can easily relate to the characters Piolo and I play."

"I Think I'm in Love" is also a welcome change for director **Maryo J. de los Reyes** who has been identified with adult dramas and weepies.

Direk Maryo also handled Joyce

JOYCE/A31

MANDY Moore

SHANE West

'A WALK TOREMEMBER'

Sweet, irresistible 'Love Story' knockoff

By Ruben M. Cruz Jr.

REVIEW

TWO star-crossed young lovers from opposite sides of the track, a disapproving father, a rebellious son, and a love that conquers everything—except leukemia.

Could this film be any more similar to "Love Story?"

Nevertheless, the target audience of "A Walk to Remember" which, based on the people at the screening I attended and the long, snaking line at the box-office are mostly young girls, with some boys, might not even have a clue. What love story, they might ask. "Love means never having to say you're sorry." Does that line ring any bells? Yup, I think I heard that from my parents once.

Ignorance is not always bliss, so here's a short historical note for the kids who flock to "A Walk to Remember." Directed by Arthur Hiller and starring Ryan O'Neal and Ali MacGraw, "Love Story" (1970) is a film that can well claim the patent on romantic tearjerkers. Panned by the critics for its sappiness, it was nonetheless patronized by millions (ask your mom or dad) and it garnered seven Oscar nominations (winning only for Best Musical Score). Now that you've seen its knockoff, you can go rent the original.

Manipulative

"A Walk to Remember" may not get the same Oscar approval but it obviously will draw in the crowds, especially here where people are always in need of a good cry. This film is shamelessly manipulative toward that purpose. Yet it also offers a sweet, simple story of true love that only the most cynical could resist.

Based on a novel by Nicholas Sparks ("Message in A Bottle") and adapted to the screen by Karen Janszen, the story is set in a small town in North Carolina where Jamie Sullivan (pop princess Mandy Moore) and Landon Carter (Shane West) study in the same high school but live in completely different worlds.

Landon is the Alpha male of the in-crowd, the bad boy every girl on campus would like to date despite the seemingly permanent scowl plastered on his face. Jamie is the good girl. Daughter of the town's Baptist minister (credibly portrayed by Peter Coyote) and solidly anchored to her Christian faith, she genuinely thanks cruel classmates for their left-handed compliments on her appearance and readily gives up her Saturdays to tutor learning-disadvantaged kids.

Of course, with Moore playing her, Jamie also has a golden voice that she invests singing in the church choir and in school plays.

Predictable

After he gets busted for a hazing prank, Landon is forced to do community service and act in the school's spring play, which both bring him closer to Jamie. What happens next is no surprise. Suffice it to say that when Landon asks Jamie to help him with the play and she tells him, "Promise not to fall in love with me," that is exactly what he does.

There's not one element of "A Walk to Remember" you haven't seen before. You can anticipate every plot twist several scenes before they actually happen. Seated beside a bunch of noisy girls who've seen a pirated copy of the film and who've decided to share a running commentary doesn't help much in the surprise department either.

But the appeal of the two young leads and their romance grows on you as the film progresses. "A Walk to Remember" works because it is able to create two likeable people whom you'd want to put in the kissing booth of a school fair.

Moore doesn't need much range for her role. She coasts along, evoking the oohs, aahs and sobs from her (obvious) fans even when her lip-syncing falters.

Refreshing

I always thought Moore was miscast as the villain in "The Princess Diaries." She's got the face and not just the voice of an angel. Wearing shapeless frocks and dyeing her brown for the film are supposed to make her look plain, but she still manages to be radiantly beautiful. I actually think she's better looking here than in her music videos.

Jamie is exactly the kind of girl I would have wanted to take to the prom back in high school, but being more than a decade beyond the film's intended demographic naturally makes my judgment irrelevant.

It's also refreshing to find a teenage film character with actual character. Behind Jamie's goodness is an inner steel will that helps her stay true to herself, unyielding to narrow societal conventions and the peer pressure of high school. It's easy to believe Landon falling for her because she makes being "nice and square" look really cool.

In a "Walk to Remember" there's no need for the good girl to get the makeover, and that is just how it should be.

Clever West

The appeal of West is not apparent in the first few scenes. He actually looks like a Doogie Howser who's imbibed some of that nasty potion from Dr. Jekyll.

No one in real life would want to be in his high school clique. In fact, no one in real life would want to go out with him. But his transition from jerk to redeemed hero, though poorly scripted, is cleverly and gracefully acted. At the end of the film, there might not be a member of the audience who will not feel sorry for his loss.

As the credit rolls and the lights are turned on, most of those inside the cinema scurry outside, the better to hide their puffy eyes and red noses perhaps. The more astute among us patiently wait until the lights are turned off again.

"A Walk to Remember" is not the greatest romantic treat. But at least I never have to say I was sorry to see it.

Joyce . . .

From page A30

in her movie with **Diether Ocampo**, "Ano Ba'ng Meron Ka," shown last year.

"I Think I'm in Love" is one of the six official entries in the Manila Film Festival, which starts June 12.

"As long as our movie fares well at the box office, they can give the acting awards to others," says Joyce.

No boycott?

PIOLO Pascual is not a bit worried by the talk that Piolo-**Judy Ann (Santos)** fans intend to boycott his movie with Joyce Jimenez.

"She (Judy Ann) did a movie with **Dingdong (Dantes)** and our fans didn't boycott that, so I don't think they will plan anything like that about my movie with Joyce," Piolo says.

After "I Think I'm in Love," Piolo will resume filming the period movie, "Dekada '70," with **Vilma Santos** and **Christopher de Leon.** Piolo plays an activist and the eldest of the five sons of Vilma and Boyet in the film directed by **Chito Roño.**

"I just want to keep exploring the acting arena and discover more things," Piolo says. "In the future I also want to venture into directing."

Piolo says he does not really have a dream role, but wants to do something like what Hollywood actor **Edward Norton** played in the **Richard Gere** movie, "Primal Fear."

Piolo says he also wants to make movies with such actresses as **Sharon Cuneta, Regine Velasquez** and **Dawn Zulueta.**

Concert on TV

LEA Salonga makes a rare live TV appearance on GMA 7's Sunday noontime show today, "SOP."

Lea will perform with the show's resident divas—**Regine Velasquez** and **Jaya**—as well as male hosts **Ogie Alcasid** and **Janno Gibbs.**

Viewers will thus have a 30-minute mini-concert on TV.

Lea is in town for a brief stay, to do a repeat of her Broadway concert on June 19 at the PICC.

More Entertainment pages on B25 to B28

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Louie C. Camino

Who's the biggest of them all?

RICA Peralejo challenges Assunta de Rossi for sex symbol supremacy. Ten other sexy stars battle for the honor of being the most top-heavy star.

All these and more are in the first issue of GM, or Gentlemen's Magazine, a glossy, colorful, picture-heavy monthly men's magazine from GM Publications Corp., that has hit the market.

Cover girl Rica and Assunta try to top each other in "Will the Real Queen of Bold Please Stand Up?" A special feature, "A Perfect 10: Battle of the Boobs," zooms in on the men's top 10 choices with the mostest: Ara Mina, Joyce Jimenez, Sunshine Cruz, Patricia Javier, Jessa Zaragoza, Rufa Mae Quinto, Klaudia Koronel, Aya Medel, Brigitte de Joya and Ilonah Marquez.

COVER GIRL Rica Peralejo on GM.

A child's day is no child's play

GETTING children to eat breakfast is always a chore. The never-ending tug-of-war between you and your children never seems to get any easier, especially as they grow older. There's always a picky eater, a bus to catch, or a last minute assignment. Most times, your children leave home without even touching their meals. And yet we all know how essential a nutritious breakfast is to the optimal development of your child. Studies have shown that apart from stimulating and boosting the learning process, eating a healthy breakfast can do wonders for your child's school day.

Here are some significant benefits of a nutritious breakfast.

Children actually achieve more. Whether we're talking about sports activities or written exams, students who have had sufficient breakfast score higher because of better focus and concentration. Some get almost a whole letter grade higher.

They participate in class more often. Since hungry children tend to be disinterested and inattentive in school, getting your children to eat breakfast helps increase their attentiveness in the classroom.

Kids learn better. A nutritious breakfast provides children with the needed vitamins and nutrients necessary for the sustained release of energy throughout the day. This in turn ensures a higher capacity for learning by improving a child's memory.

Students who are not hungry behave better in class. Studies show that they become less irritable, more socially developed and emotionally-balanced, thereby needing less disciplinary actions.

Schoolchildren attend classes more often. Taking time for breakfast actually pays off in the long run. Children are less likely to be absent and late when their stomachs are not empty and grumbling.

A nutritious breakfast leads to a healthy mind and body. Students who make time for breakfast actually make less trips to the school clinic. They grow and develop faster, not to mention better.

How important is breakfast? Your active child's future depends greatly on it. So make sure his first meal provides him with the necessary energy boost to last the day. Make time for breakfast, it will go a long way for your child's optimal growth and development.

—oOo—

Milo with breakfast -- the perfect combination

EVERYDAY, you face the unending problem of how to ensure that your kids get enough nutritious during mealtime or how to make them eat without much struggling. It's tough to get your children to eat a healthy breakfast everyday, but there's one sure way to get them eat, heartily and healthily at that.

MILO, the secret behind every successful energy breakfast.

With complete vitamins and minerals plus energy-releasing B vitamins, MILO is the ideal breakfast drink for your child. Not only does it have a rich chocolatey taste that's a welcome treat for every kid, it also helps in giving him the energy to last the day.

Vitamin B1 (thiamin), B2 (riboflavin), B12 (cobalamin), and pantothenic acid all ensure the effective release of energy from food.

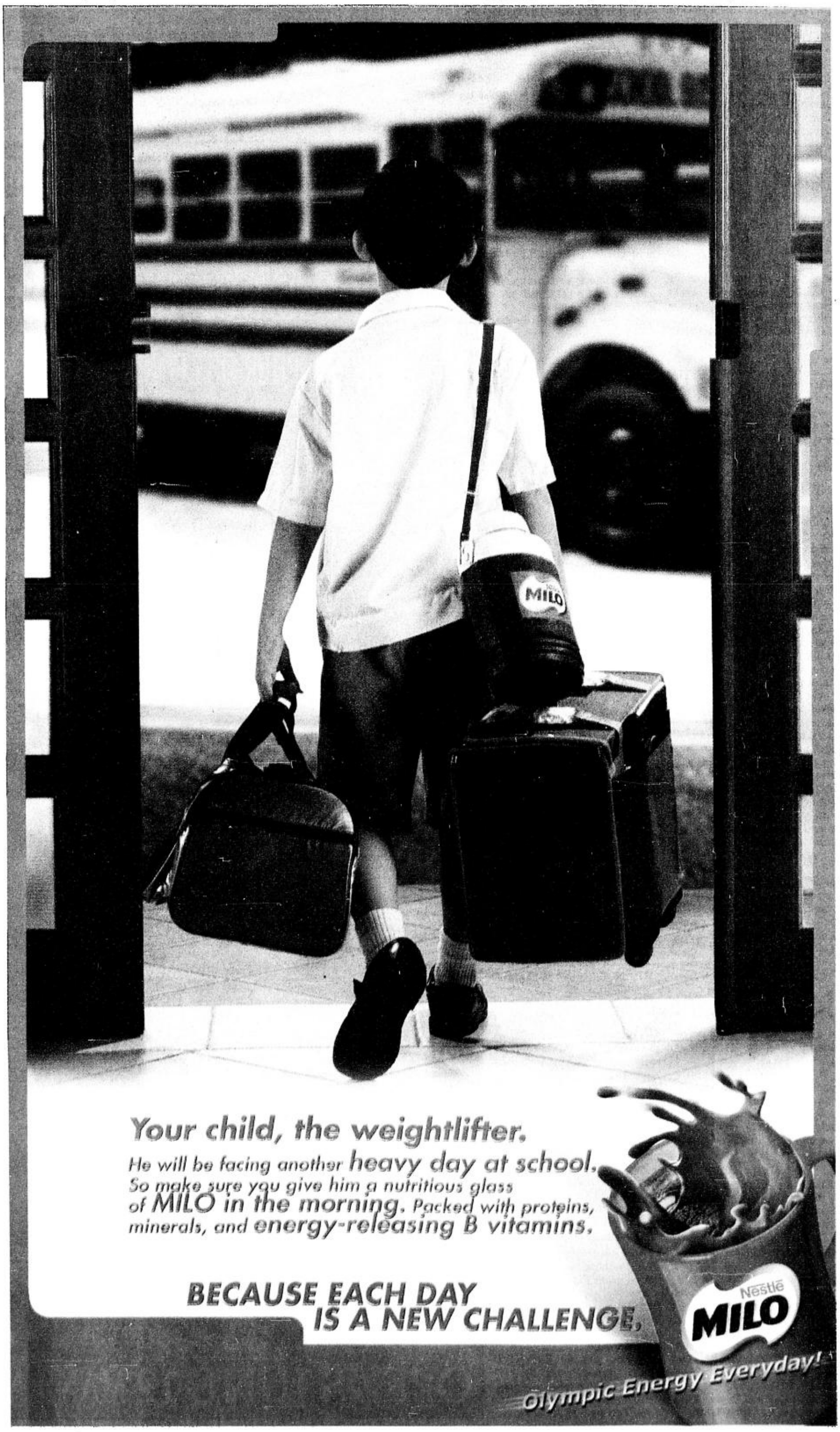
Vitamin B1
- helps release energy from carbohydrates
- promotes growth and muscle tone

Vitamin B2
- helps the body release energy from protein, fats, and carbohydrates
- aids in the improvement of athletic performance

Vitamin B12
- helps keep cells in the circulatory, nervous, and digestive systems in good working condition
- regulates the body's oxygen at a level that promotes the release of energy

Pantothenic acid
- essential in the metabolism of protein, fats, and carbohydrates

Active children need a lot of energy to excell in everything they do. Make MILO a healthy part of your child's breakfast and help him reach his optimum mental and physical performance... everyday!



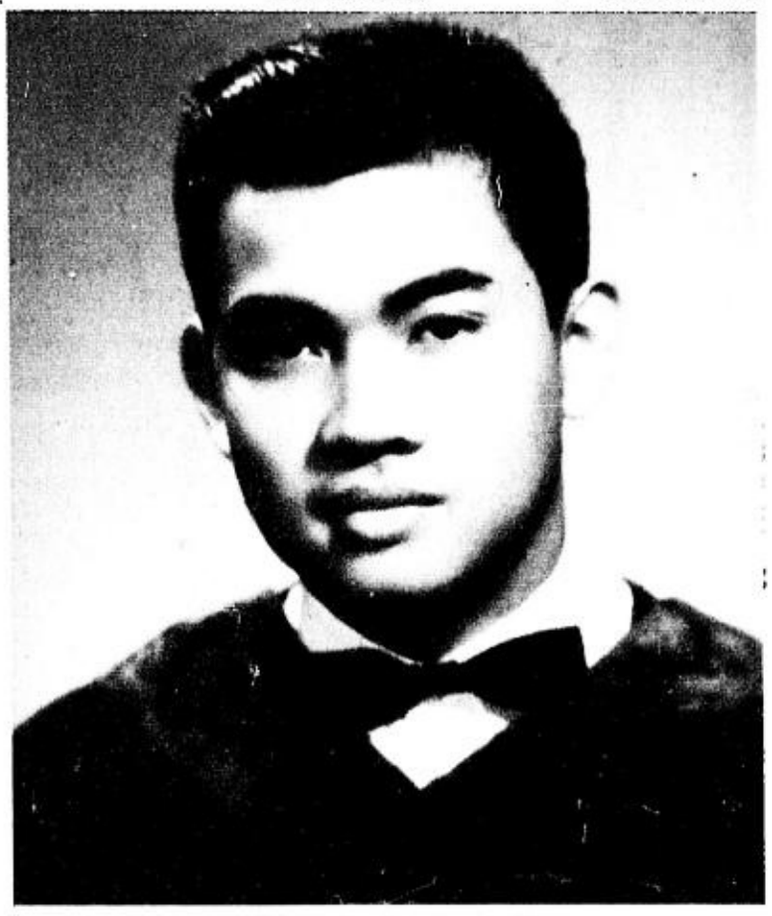
Sunday BIZ

Editor Raul O. Marcelo ● Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

This lawyer had it good from the start

His challenge now is to make his TV station number one

GOZON



HE ranked No. 10 in his graduating class in UP.

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

HE loved to argue with his teachers and question their lectures so it was no surprise that Felipe Lapus Gozon, chair and president of GMA Network Inc., took up law.

He landed 13th in the 1962 Bar exams. But he wanted to get his studies out of the way so he immediately proceeded to graduate school.

He got a fellowship at Yale University Law School and to get a feel of the United States, he got himself a summer job before school started.

FIRST JOB

Gozon was a researcher at the Courdert Bros., the first international law firm based in New York. Courdert is the firm which established the predecessor of the Ponce Enrile, Siguion Reyna, Montecillo and Belo law office in Manila.

Courdert paid him $350 a month for two months.

At that time, the peso-dollar exchange rate stood at P2 to $1 and Gozon recalls that as a bachelor in New York, a grand date with a show and dinner cost $20.

With his summer job and generous allowance from his father (which enabled him to maintain a room in New York City), Gozon got himself a VW 1500 for $2,000.

"I needed a car because in the US, everybody is out during the weekends. At the start, I was literally talking to myself in the mirror," Gozon relates.

The young lawyer enjoyed his one year study in the United States. An Ivy League school, a pad and a car was a dream life for people his age.

His one year Master of Laws course passed quickly enough and although he had the option to work with Courdert, Gozon says he did not have any desire to work in the United States as he was itching to start his law practice in Manila.

"I really wanted to practice law in the Philippines. Staying in the US would have been an unnecessary delay," he explains.

When he reached Manila he joined the Ponce Enrile law office where he stayed for four years.

He was given a salary of P4,500 a month, a pretty hefty sum in 1966.

He asked his sister to get him a Cougar (then a sports car) in Los Angeles, California where she was studying. The car cost $3,000 (some P60,000 then).

He says he was only one of two people in Manila who had a Cougar.

When Juan Ponce Enrile, left the law firm in 1966to join the Marcos administration as undersecretary of fi-

THIS/ B4

FLASHBACK

WHEN Felipe L. Gozon landed his first job in Manila in 1969, his office was at the former San Miguel Corp. building along Ayala Ave. cor. Paseo de Roxas in Makati (where the Enterprise Center now stands).

Gozon says Buendia was a two-lane road at that time and there were hardly any buildings along Ayala. Edsa was still called Highway 54 and it was just a one lane affair. The night spots then were in Malate. The famous places to go to were Guernica's and Nina's Papagayo. A good date in these places only cost P50.

Gozon spent $3,000 for this Cougar and he was only one of two owners of such a car in Manila then.

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Pfizer mEDex®

MEDICAL EXPERTS ON ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION

E.D.torial

This week's columnist:

Winnie P. Siao, MD
President
Philippine Academy of Family Physicians

READERS TALK BACK

In this week's issue, we are giving way to our readers' questions and opinions about Erectile Dysfunction (ED) and other related topics.

First, let's tackle a question sent through e-mail by one of our readers:

Question: *I am 46 years old and a stroke victim. I am not diabetic but my blood sugar level sometimes reaches 180. I don't like to believe it, but I may have erectile dysfunction.*

My stroke was very recent, only last May 9, 2002. Can you advise me on how to revive my sexual life?

Answer: According to the latest recommendation of the American Diabetes Association, one's fasting blood sugar level should be below 110 mg/dL. Your blood sugar level is significantly high. We recommend that you have your blood sugar checked again and discuss the results with your doctor.

Erectile Dysfunction may be common among males who have heart disease and/or abnormal blood sugar levels. There is a simple questionnaire to help you determine if you may be experiencing ED. Called the International Index for Erectile Function (IIEF 5)*, these 5 questions will help facilitate dialogue between you and your doctor. Each question has several possible responses. Just circle the number that best describes your own situation. Add the numbers corresponding to the questions. If your score is 21 or less, discuss your results with your doctor and he can help you select the best treatment option for you.

Over the Past 6 Months:

I. How do you rate your confidence that you could get and keep an erection?
- (1) Very Low
- (2) Low
- (3) Moderate
- (4) High
- (5) Very High

II. When you had an erection with sexual stimulation, how often were your erections hard enough for penetration (entering your partner)?
- (0) No sexual activity
- (1) Almost never or never
- (2) A few times *(much less than half the time)*
- (3) Sometimes *(about half the time)*
- (4) Most times *(much more than half the time)*
- (5) Almost always or always

III. During sexual intercourse, how often were you able to maintain your erection after you had penetrated (entered) your partner?
- (0) Did not attempt intercourse
- (1) Almost never or never
- (2) A few times *(much less than half the time)*
- (3) Sometimes *(about half the time)*
- (4) Most times *(much more than half the time)*
- (5) Almost always or always

IV. During sexual intercourse, how difficult was it to maintain your erection to completion of intercourse?
- (0) Did not attempt intercourse
- (1) Extremely difficult
- (2) Difficult
- (3) Very difficult
- (4) Slightly difficult
- (5) Not difficult

V. When you attempted sexual intercourse, how often was it satisfactory for you?
- (0) Did not attempt intercourse
- (1) Almost never or never
- (2) A few times *(much less than half the time)*
- (3) Sometimes *(about half the time)*
- (4) Most times *(much more than half the time)*
- (5) Almost always or always

SCORE _____

Here are some tips on how you can revive your sexual life: first, get a clean health bill from your doctor; make sure you are both rested and relaxed; wait for 2-3 hours after eating a full meal to give time for digestion; choose a familiar, peaceful place; use only doctor-prescribed medications, take this prior to the sexual activity; be aware that your feelings about your body may have changed since you became ill; lastly, if you start to feel uncomfortable or tired during the sexual activity, stop and rest for a short time.

There is no reason why stroke patients cannot resume sexual activity as soon as they are physically ready to do so. *You and your doctor will be the best persons to know when that time will be.*

AND THE SURVEY SAYS....

In the past mEDex columns, we posted survey questions for the readers to answer via text messaging. Here are what the readers have to say:

(May 12) **Are you aware of ED as a health problem?**
Yes – 87%;
No – 13%

Are you interested to know more about ED?
Yes – 97%;
No – 3%

(May 19) **Is maintaining or improving your sexual health important to you?**
Yes – 97%;
No – 3%

Do you agree that good sexual health favorably impacts one's overall health?
Yes – 97%;
No – 3%

(May 26) **Do you think married couples 50 years old and above still want to make love?**
Yes – 99%;
No – 1%

Do you think married couples 50 years old and above still make love?
Yes – 94%;
No – 6%

AND THE SURVEY CONTINUES...

We'd like to run an informal survey. Try to answer for yourself the IIEF 5* questions featured above and text us your score at **0917-8PFIZER** (0917-8734937) or **0918-9PFIZER** (0918-9734937). Lucky texters will get a chance to win a Pfizer gift pack.

To answer, text PFI (space), ED (space), your score (space), your age (space). You may also opt to type your name. Your answers will be held in strict confidentiality.

Example: **PFI ED 15 40 Paul Reyes**

* ROSEN R. ET AL. The International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF): A multidimensional scale for assessment of Erectile Dysfunction. Urology 1997; 49 (6): 822-830

Should you have questions about E.D. or comments regarding this column, please write to: Pfizer mEDex (**mEDex@Pfizer.com**)

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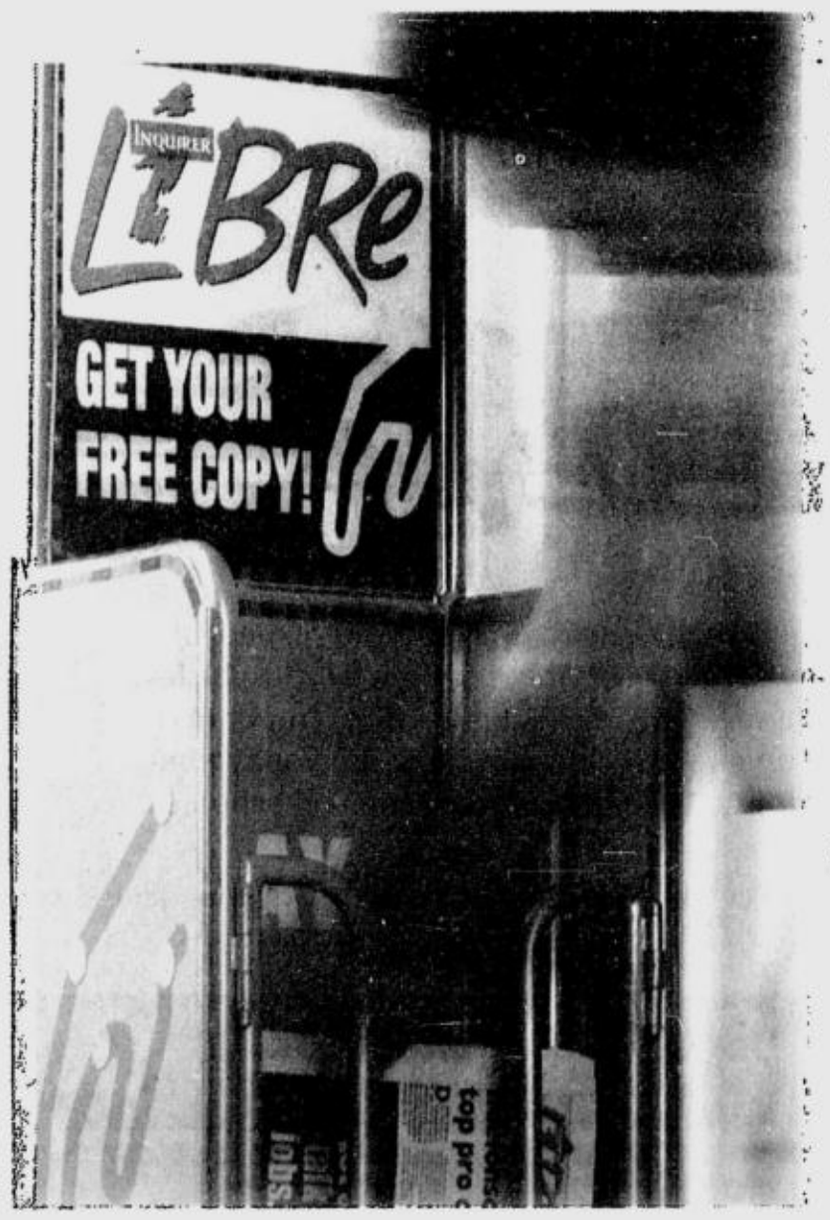

Ang Inquirer Libre ay makukuha umpisa 6:00 ng umaga, Lunes hanggang Biyernes, sa mga sumusunod na LRT at MRT stations:

LRT stations: Monumento, 5th Avenue, Abad Santos, Blumentritt, Tayuman, Carlredo, Pedro Gil, Gil Puyat, Libertad, Edsa at Baclaran

MRT stations: North Avenue, Quezon Avenue, GMA Kamuning, Cubao, Shaw, Boni, Guadalupe, Magallanes at Taft

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IN YOUR FACE

BY L.P. LEVISTE

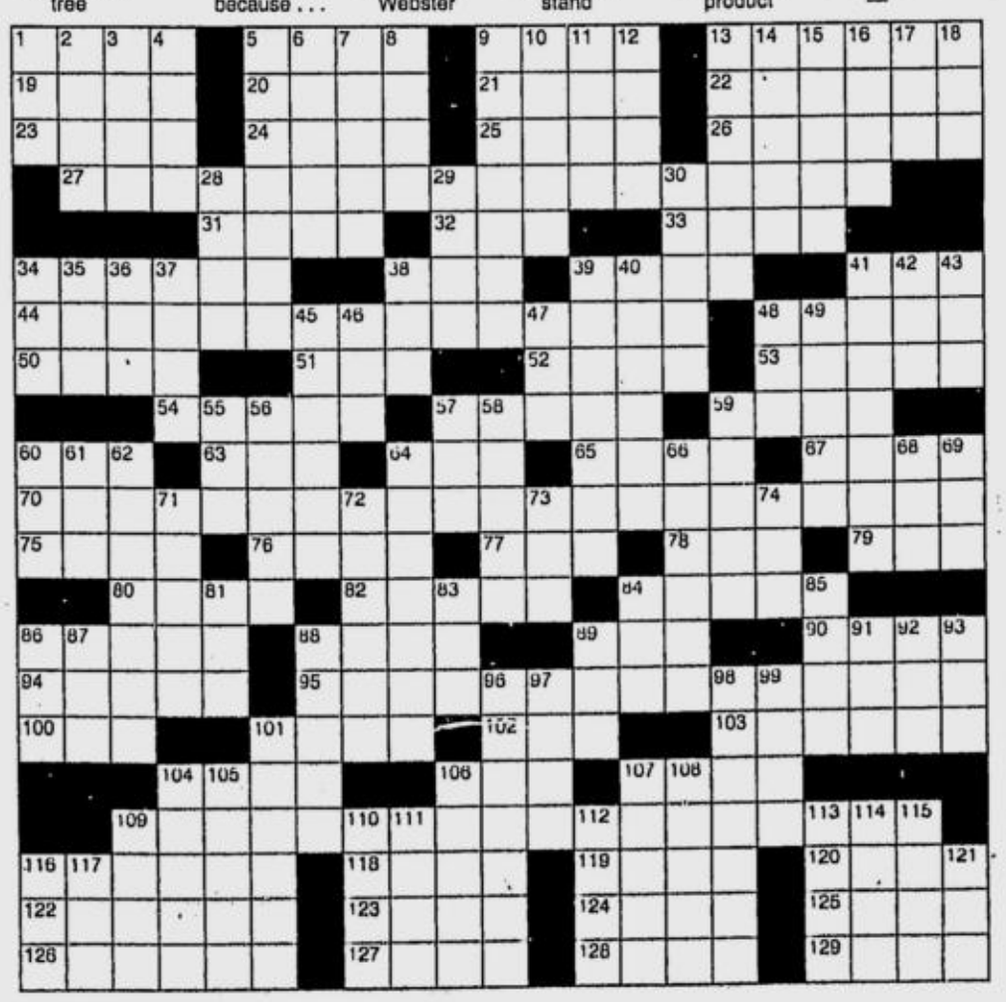
PLDT chair Antonio "Tonyboy" Cojuangco is reported to be joining forces with Manuel V. Pangilinan, president and CEO of the phone firm and the man who booted Cojuangco out of the helm of PLDT. Pangilinan is chair of the First Pacific Group of Hong Kong which undertook a hostile takeover of PLDT in 1998.

WACHOVIA Bank N.A. Cocktails. Michael Heavener, EVP and Head of International Division of Wachovia Bank N.A. (formerly First Union National Bank) recently hosted cocktails at the Shangri-La Makati to announce the new Wachovia Brand. The International business of Wachovia Bank N.A. remains stronger than ever, and will continue the tradition of offering correspondent banking services to over 3000 banks worldwide. Shown in photo (L-R) Imelda Capistrano, VP & Incoming Country representative; Michael Heavener, EVP & head, International Division; Paulette Callas, VP & outgoing country representative; Edward Go, chair & CEO, United Coconut Planters Bank and BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 From the top
5 Pride of the pumped-up
9 St. Louis team
13 Dirty
19 118 Across' mistress
20 Way off base?
21 Director Kazan
22 Agenda item
23 Emcee's site
24 Melodious McEntire
25 Monastery dweller
26 Kindle
27 He became a Realtor because . . .
31 Form a cylinder
32 Broad st.
33 Savage sorts
34 Alarm
38 It may be strapless
39 Emulates Simon
41 Hibiscus garland
44 She became a pharmacist because . . .
48 — squash
50 Tropical tree
51 Wrinkly dog
52 Diva Destinn
53 Halloween happening
54 Raptor feature
57 Texas landmark
59 Out of gas
60 — Na Na
63 Scold and scold
64 Bolted the beans
65 Formerly
67 Dispel
70 He became an explorer because . . .
75 Get wind of
76 Cad
77 Watching machines?
78 Season firewood
79 Rock's — Leppard
80 Formal ceremony
82 Backslide
84 Exhausted
86 Euripidean tragedy
88 Lhasa —
89 Clarke or West
90 Model Carre
94 Simpson of fashion
95 She became a baker because . . .
100 Horde of humpbacks
101 Not that
102 Oil apparatus
103 Least light-hearted
104 Wet blanket
106 Address abbr.
107 — vu
109 He became an electrician because . . .
116 — out (aided)
118 Hammett hound
119 Small businessman?
120 Vociferate
122 Elevated
123 Author Uris
124 "— She Sweet" ('27 song)
125 Cooper's tool
126 Size up
127 Drops the ball
128 Family members, to many
129 Part of Q.E.D.

DOWN
1 Clause connector
2 Wordy Webster
3 Part of HOMES
4 Cleanse
5 Excuses
6 Tom of "Baretta"
7 Computer language
8 Thin strip
9 Dislodgment
10 Isolated
11 Ho Chi —
12 Literary pen name
13 Poet Heaney
14 Senator Hatch
15 Jeremy of "Waterland"
16 Praise
17 USNA grad
18 HST's successor
28 Schipa solo
29 Writer Paretsky
30 With diffidence
34 "For shame!"
35 Palindromic cry
36 "Fantasia" frame
37 Nab a gnat
38 Plead
39 Exercise expert Richard
40 Cashew kin
41 Couldn't stand
42 Directional suffix
43 Calligraphy supply
45 Highest point
46 Pantyhose problem
47 Soup veggie
48 Gibbon or gorilla
49 Vulgar
55 Comic Sothern
56 Woodworking tool
57 From — Z
58 Boxing blows
59 Neutral tone
60 "Quiet!"
61 TV's "— Haw"
62 Bestowed
64 Reference volumes
66 "— of Love" ('64 smash)
68 Grand — Opry
69 Mistaken
71 Historian Durant
72 Oracle site
73 "— had it!"
74 Rock's — at Work
81 — kwon do
83 Neighbor of Ger.
84 Dejected
85 Soybean product
86 Traveler's aid
87 Maestro de Waart
88 Grate stuff
89 Ryan or Foster
91 Knot it!
92 — and outs
93 NCO
96 Dondi and Annie
97 "Ars longa, — brevis"
98 Protests
99 "There oughta be —!"
101 Exchanges
104 Contradict
105 61 Down — host
106 Play boy?
107 D.D. Emmett tune
108 Happening
109 They're sometimes hugged?
110 Auction
111 — -friendly
112 Act like an antelope
113 Basra's locale
114 Pianist Lupu
115 Signor Ferrari
116 Herd word
117 Oerter and Unser
121 TV's "Father —"



ANSWER ON PAGE B6

A FARM worker makes sure that hydrangeas are free of pests that damage plants.

THERE is something about the flower Mary Gold that keeps the King Louis farm business going.

Banking on the name of a king to sell flowers

By Gobleth Moulic
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet—Who would have thought that the name of once powerful King Louis of France would be associated with the cutflower industry in the Philippines?

The King Louis Farm here, which used to grow strawberries and ornamental and potted plants, slowly blossomed into a big corporation because of its pioneering efforts in introducing new and uncommon types of flowers and plants in the country.

Efren Chatto, who managed King Louis Flowers and Plants Inc. for 10 years, said the corporation controlled by the Puyat family chose a European-sounding name since fresh flowers are heavily traded in Europe.

"The name King Louis was inspired by the famous King Louis XIV of France in Europe. Because 'king' symbolizes dominance, we envision that King Louis Farm will be a leading flower farm in the Philippines," he said.

True to its name, the farm has come a long way from growing a few varieties of flowers like roses, chrysanthemums, carnations, liliums, to exporting calla lily bulbs and other locally grown flowers to Holland and other Asian countries.

Since the farm grows and supplies mostly chrysanthemums to its regular customers, King Louis has earned the moniker "King of Chrysanthemums."

King Louis is also synonymous to the annual Baguio Flower Festival, the main tourism come-on of the city celebrated in February.

In the past six years, the farm was the source of fresh flowers of both government and private companies that participated in the festival's floral float parade.

Some of the floats that King Louis employees designed and decorated had won in the search for the most beautiful floral float.

Transfer

The King Louis Farm has been transferred to a sprawling 6-hectare lot in La Trinidad, covering the villages of Longlong, Lamtang and Alapang. The farm, which is used to be located along Asin Road in Tuba town, has been relocated to this town to pave the way for a joint development venture of the Puyat family and Sta. Lucia Realty in Tuba.

A golf course would displace the farm that sustained the flower industry in Northern Luzon for the past 10 years.

King Louis' new farm site—some of its portions hilly, some flat—is home to at least 16 local and imported flower varieties that include gladiola, misty blue, snap dragon, bells of Ireland, liatris, tulips, poinsettia, potted mums, kalanchoe, hydrangea, African violet and petunia.

To achieve high quality of these flowers, Chatto says the company employs modern farming technologies in its operations such as the use of greenhouses, drip irrigation systems, sprinkler systems, supplementary lighting and cold storage facilities.

Early growth

Chatto lamented that the late businessman Vicente Puyat, the family patriarch, could not see the success of the farm that he had painstakingly nurtured for years.

In the early 1980s, Puyat, who was based in Metro Manila, wanted to invest on commercial growing of cutflowers for three reasons, Chatto said.

First, very few people were then supplying flowers to shops in Baguio, Metro Manila and other urban centers. Second, Baguio was (and still is) the best and most convenient place to grow flowers because of its cold climate and third, Puyat wanted to explore something different and unique from other businesses he had handled.

Puyat, according to Chatto, had said a flower farm would be "therapeutic."

With at least P3 million in capital, Puyat urged some of his friends to invest on the farm until King Louis Flowers and Plants Inc. was formed on Oct. 25, 1983.

Puyat employed 120 to 150 people, mostly Cordillerans, to work in the farm. Some were carpenters, electricians, gardeners and utility workers.

The firm bought seeds from the United States, Holland and Thailand.

Chatto described the first few years of the business venture as "very, very difficult and challenging."

He recalled how several flower shops, particularly in Metro Manila, rejected their products. He said it was Puyat's express instructions to sell flowers that were unfamiliar to the public.

"(Puyat) wanted to be different. His pioneering work in this business is offering flower varieties that are new to the consumers and not readily available in the local market," he said.

He cited the European rose as an example.

Chatto said they used to have hard time marketing the European rose because it was more expensive than the common African rose.

But they marketed the European rose by highlighting its longer vase life than its local counterpart.

Convinced, owners of flower shops tried to sell them and before they knew it, consumers kept on asking for more.

From a few bundles, King Louis' customers from Metro Manila and other urban areas now buy more than 200 bundles of various types of flowers at least twice a week.

The orders shoot up particularly during special holidays.

"We eventually broke into the market after our buyers became more familiar with our flowers. Flower shop owners in Metro Manila are ordering hundreds of bundles since their customers like the flower varieties we sell," Chatto said.

King Louis has also been marketing tulips that the firm has imported from Holland. Since Baguio's cool climate could not approximate the low temperature to grow tulips, Chatto said they bought coolers to store the tulips.

Sales of tulips are brisk, especially during Valentine's Day in February and All Souls' Day in November.

"We keep tulips in our coolers to complement the supply of flowers. We have a good supply of roses in February and November but people sometimes want something expensive for their loved ones," Chatto said.

He said they usually sell at least P800,000-worth of flowers in February and more than P1 million in November.

King Louis has broadened its market and established contacts to trade flowers in some key cities in the Visayas and Mindanao.

He said flowers cultivated here are selling briskly in the Visayas and Mindanao, prompting King Louis officials to acquire a 10-ha lot at the foot of Mt. Kitanglad in Bukidnon.

Chatto said they are developing the farm in Mindanao into a greenhouse to cater to customers outside Luzon.

Export

In 1990, after seven years of diligence and hard work, the firm recovered its capital and started to export various flower varieties.

For instance, Chatto said they soon propagated a plant called *picus pumila* after learning that it was in demand in Japan.

The firm bought the leaves from Japan and cultivated these in La Trinidad. Now, King Louis is reaping much profit from exporting *picus pumila* alone, although Chatto did not say how much they have earned so far.

Knowing the market is a formula behind King Louis' successful venture.

When Holland, dubbed as the world's flower capital, has increased its demand for calla lilies, King Louis immediately mobilized its farmers to collect calla lily bulbs in the mountains of the Cordillera.

Now, they have been exporting at least 30,000 calla lily bulbs to Holland at least three times a year.

The firm, however, went beyond the export trade.

Since flowers are indispensable to weddings, birthday parties and corporate events, King Louis is earning extra income by arranging flowers for these special occasions.

Chatto said for a mass wedding, the company can supply the flowers and arrange them as well for P20,000 to P30,000. But if a couple wants imported flowers like tulips in their wedding, they should prepare at least P100,000, he added.

Setback

King Louis may be earning millions of pesos from the flower trade but life at the farm is not always bed of roses.

The thorns that prick the business are the typhoons that regularly hit the country.

Chatto admitted that strong rains and winds destroy cutflowers and potted plants, resulting in huge losses.

The leaf miner pest, fungi and insects also threaten the farm once in a while. Chatto, however, said these can be solved by using chemicals to kill the pests.

He is not likewise worried by the impending El Niño phenomenon that is expected to dry up the farms. He said they are preparing measures to cope with the long dry spell later this year.

"We are used to natural disasters. They come and go. We pray hard that we would not be severely affected. But if worse things happen, we manage to get back to business as usual," he said.

Bright hope

Chatto is optimistic that there is a bright hope for the Philippine cutflower industry in the world market, especially if the government and the private sector would join hands.

He said the country has to keep abreast with the latest technology of growing flowers and to be aggressive and more innovative in marketing its products in the world.

Chatto said King Louis has established a cutflower growing-marketing cooperation with 35 cutflower farmers in Benguet to help them in marketing their produce through the firm's market network.

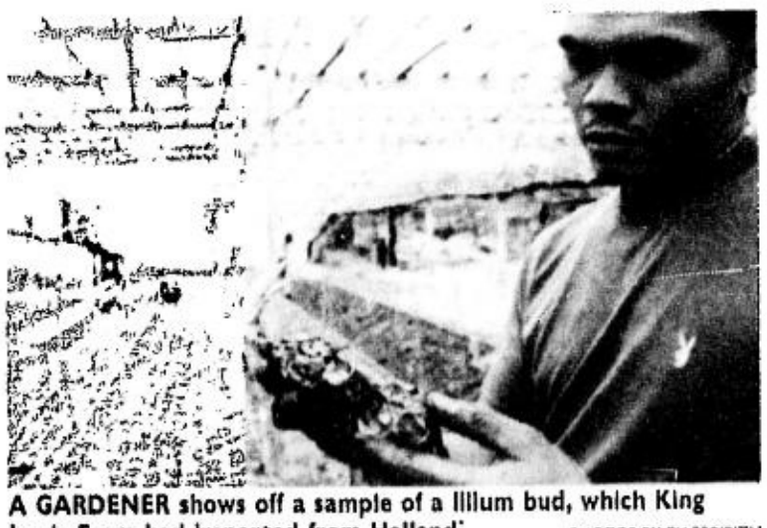
He said the firm has devoted a five-hectare greenhouse to help the farmers grow quality flowers through sharing of technology.

Chatto said the Philippine cutflower industry would be featured at the exhibit's indoor area from June 4 to 12.

> It was after seven years that the farm recovered its capital and went into export.

KING Louis manager Efren Chatto shows off a calla lily bulb that the firm exports to Holland.

TOURISTS take their best pick from a wide array of flowers and plants.



A GARDENER shows off a sample of a lilium bud, which King Louis Farm had imported from Holland.

PHOTOS BY EV ESPIRITU

A COMPUTER designer of Burlington Industries stresses a point to the RP Youth Team members in a plant visit to the firm's office in Makati.

How much does it cost to sustain a sports team

A SPORTS team bearing the name of its country enters a world tournament to prove to the global village that it has what it takes to compete—the talent, discipline, passion for the game, and love for country. But aside from the jerseys emblazoned with the Philippines' tri-colors, a national team's needs are staggering.

What does it take to sustain its fighting spirit? In other words, what is the business side of maintaining a bevy of athletes competing in the international arena?

Enormous cost

"The costs are enormous," says Tiny Literal, Basketball Association of the Philippines (BAP) president. Thus, when fielding a team for the Southeast Asian Basketball Association (Seaba) junior championship to be held in Malaysia this month, the country had to count on the civic sense of the business sector.

"We had to sound the alarm for corporate support," adds Graham Lim, its secretary general. Otherwise, the financial side of the equation will flounder. There are the basic essentials to consider: fitness training, health and medical needs, retainer for the coaches and trainers, living accommodations and transportation requirements, and a host of sundry items that spell big money.

Christian Tan, executive vice president (EVP) and treasurer of the BAP, cites the SoutheastAsian Games and Asian Games, held every two and four years respectively, as national responsibilities which should be conducted like a business enterprise. The latter is assigned by the BAP to the Philippine Basketball Association, who in turn looks for corporate backers. They found their saviors in Selecta of RFM and Hapee Toothpaste of Lamoiyan Corp.

Selecta, which was sponsor for two conferences of the league may have shelled out between P9 and P15 million, depending on the performance of the team. Hapee, for its part, who supported a training team in the first conference, may have contributed at least P6 million.

Other countries maintain a national training pool all year round, subsidized by the joint effort of the government and the private sector. The trainees compete in international tournaments to prepare for the regional and world meets.

The RP Burlington Youth team, for one, found its knight in Burlington Industries Philippines, Inc. Without the latter's sponsorship, it may not be the torch bearer of a glorious tradition in the junior league dating back to 1970. One will recall the legendary basketball players such as William "Bogs" Adornado and Ramon Fernandez, who reaped laurels for the country.

Burlington, which is in the hosiery business, has been supporting activities that help develop national pride, especially in the field of youth and sports development.

Upon learning that a benefactor was needed to put up the junior team, the company, which makes Burlington, Bally and Puma socks and stockings, rose to the occasion. The owners of the company, led by its president, Pete Tan, from Gasan, Marinduque, has provided the support even during trying economic times.

Ruddy Tan, general manager of the company, vowed both his business expertise and personal commitment to the team. He explains: "Everybody needs to pitch in to make a go of this national team. Like any endeavor, we must strive to make it financially viable, or our country will fall by the wayside in world sports." Ruddy believes in the innate talent of the Filipino athlete, and rues the day when we can no longer send our teams abroad bemuse of logistics.

Although Burlington's expenses in the upkeep of the youth team may not yet reach the level of their PBA counterparts yet, it still is able to provide for the training, daily transportation of the team members, the socio-civic outreach projects and the air fare for the contingent's trip in July.

If the RP Burlington Youth Team places either first or second, they will be eligible for the Asian Basketball Confederation (ABC) Junior Championships to be held in Kuwait next December. ***(Nenet Galang-Pereña)***

Husband and wife team succeeds in making it to millionaire's group

ALFREDO Tumacder, Gilda and Jimmy de la Cruz

IT WAS Heraclitus who said that "Man is not made for defeat."

There are plenty of winners in every aspect of life and in every field of endeavor. Winners rule the world and stand as role models to the mass of men trying to wrestle with defeat.

It is obvious that Jimmy and Gilda de la Cruz were not made for defeat. They are winners in their chosen field which is insurance. Today, Gilda with ample support from husband Jimmy has reached the highest peak in her insurance career with the coming conferment of the Million Dollar Round Table Award (MDRT).

The MDRT is the most prestigious organization in the insurance industry worldwide. Someone who is given an MDRT is considered an international gold awardee. Joining the MDRT means one has earned millions in insurance commissions. In the Philippines, it means earning at least P1.3 million in commissions.

Gilda nostalgically looks back at her humble beginnings. "I started as a minimum wage earner. I was a secretary in a small insurance company in Binondo. It was my first job and I scrimped on a lot of things just to be able to save enough to help with family finances. I was still single then but I tried to learn everything about the business. When I got married and needed more time for the family, I decided to give up my regular job and opted to just sell insurance."

Gilda got married to Jimmy, her high school sweetheart. "We started with nothing," she reminisces. "Jimmy had to work as a waiter in Saudi Arabia. He was away from us for two years. We wanted to be together but it was the best choice at that time. We were homesick but we knew we had to sacrifice our emotional needs to fulfill our financial requirements. It was a difficult stage in our life. He stayed there for two years and quit when the Gulf War erupted."

Jimmy recalls that when he came home he badly needed to find a job so he decided to join his wife in the insurance business. "I told myself I had to excel in this field so I could provide well for my family. I really worked hard during that first year and luckily, I became my agency's top performer. With that initial success I got motivated to work harder and thank God, I have consistently gotten rewards and awards for my work."

His industry and dedication to work did not escape the notice of insurance executives. They came knocking at Jimmy and Gilda's door bearing gifts and nice offerings just for him to join their agencies. It was Alfredo Tumacder, president of Cocolife, who succeeded in persuading him to join Cocolife.

Jimmy narrates the story of his Cocolife adventure. "Mr. Tumacder called to offer me a branch manager position with Cocolife. He said they would give me an office but I countered that I could not leave my office at Panay Avenue as I had other things to attend to. Instead of a relocation, he amiably offered to rent an office in the same building just a floor above my old office so we could use it for our Cocolife operations. We did very well even on our first year with Cocolife that we were awarded the Group Producer of the Year Award.

"We have been with them for the past five years and everything has been well with us. We have consistently garnered awards and have benefited from all the rewards that Cocolife has to offer. Gilda and I recently joined the Cocolife Asian Cruise that took us to Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore. We were also part of the delegation that went to Australia in the previous year. Cocolife has been so much a part of our colorful and happy life."

Putting their hearts and minds into their work has been the secret to their performance. Jimmy and Gilda though give a lot of credit to God's guiding hand in their success. "We never fail to pray for His help and we allot time for activities to honor His name. We are active members of the Couples for Christ movement," they declare.

Now that she has reached MDRT status, Gilda says she has to work harder to maintain her standing in the industry. Every yea, the quota rises for those who are in the MDRT circle. Fortunately for Gilda and Jimmy, insurance work is second nature to them.

Gilda is gearing up for the MDRT Awards night to be held in Los Angeles, this month. It has been her life's dream—to be in the international circle of big business of the industry. She knows she will be treated as a very important person—the perks and trimmings of winning will all be there and she knows this will be an unforgettable experience in a lifetime. Jimmy has been a big part of all this and although the focus will not be on him, he knows the victory is his, too, and they will both rejoice in their mutual accomplishment.

This lawyer had it good from the start

From page B1

nance and customs commissioner, Gozon was asked to take over his cases.

One of the cases that landed on his table was that of Philippine Airlines, then under Benigno Toda, which was mired in tax problems.

He was able to clean up the cases and this impressed PAL. Soon he was asked to join their legal department.

"I was not ready to leave," he says, but he thought becoming a corporate lawyer would be easier work as he would only be handling one company.

He was never farther from the truth.

"The opposite happened," Gozon recalls.

He had eight lawyers under him but he says he could not rely on "one to help me."

"I wanted to leave after six months because I felt I could not continue that way—doing the work of a whole department," he says.

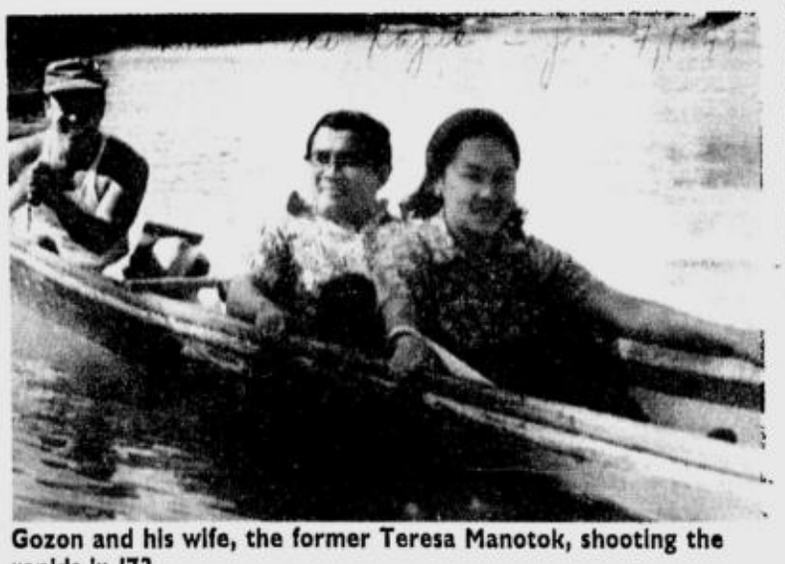
But PAL management wanted to keep him so they gave him a blanket authority to hire his own team. He got Willy Chato, Rolly Vinluan, Manuel Lazaro, Nelson Lavina—all of whom are now successful lawyers.

But Gozon still left PAL after one and a half years.

For the second time he said he was not ready to leave but a former partner at the Ponce Enrile law firm, Enrique Belo, invited him to set up a law firm. He agreed and they held office in the PAL building as the airline still wanted him to advise them.

That was in 1972. The partnership only lasted three years and in 1975 he set up his own practice.

THE YOUNG Gozon with his mother



Gozon and his wife, the former Teresa Manotok, shooting the rapids in '73

Gozon, left, representing PAL at a Civil Aeronautics Board hearing

Gozon claims it took him 15 years to really establish his law practice, and although he says his earnings were just enough to cover his expenses, he still managed to buy an P850,000 property in Urdaneta Village in 1974.

A couple of years earlier, he was advising Bob Stewart (of Uncle Bob fame of the '70s) and his wife, Loreto F. de Gemedes-Stewart, then the owners of Channel 7.

The station was set up under 50-year-old incorporation laws and needed to be updated.

By July 1972, the station was renamed Republic Broadcast System from Loreto F. de Gemedes Inc.

JIMMY Duavit, Gozon, Menardo Jimenez

Unfortunately, by September 1972, martial law was imposed and it was not the best time to be in broadcast media. Stations' licenses were good only for six months and they had to continually apply for renewal.

In 1974, a decree was signed that all media organizations should be 100-percent owned by Filipinos. At that time, RBS was 25-percent owned by the American Broadcasting Corp.

The shares were offered to Gozon but he says he did not have money at that time having just bought the house and at the same time he felt the station had no future.

He asked his friend Menardo Jimenez, a businessman and an accountant if he was interested. Jimenez acquired 20 percent while Gozon got 10 percent. Jimenez took over as treasurer from Loreto and eventually became president. Jimmy Duavit had earlier acquired 30 percent of the station.

In 1978, Bob Stewart went into the software industry. Unfortunately he lost everything and had to sell the station.

Duavit, Jimenez and Gozon bought the shares with a 35, 35, 30-percent ownership structure respectively.

The name was changed to Greater Manila Arts, but now it has been renamed Global Media Arts or GMA.

Gozon says he continued his law practice but remained as chair of the company since the '80s. In 1992, he got back with Enrique Belo and they remain partners in the law firm.

But after being in the sidelines for two decades, Gozon decided last November to take a more active role in the company and immediately implemented a changing of the guards at the station.

His goal is to make GMA the No. 1 TV station in the country and his strategy is basically to do this via programming. He takes a direct hand in the choice of programs to be aired during the prime time hours of 7 to 9 in the evening.

His plan is to sell GMA shares to the public in five years.

While Gozon described himself as an argumentative person, he says he never disagreed with his mother who could give a mean spanking but would immediately feel guilty about it and console him.

Gozon is now a grandfather of one. All his three children are successfully in their chosen fields.

RP center to open in Hawaii

HONOLULU—A $14.2 million Filipino Community Center will open in Waipahu next week, culminating a 10-year effort by architects, engineers, businessmen and volunteers to establish what is being billed as the largest such center of its kind outside of Manila.

"After 10 years, I still cannot believe it's there," said Eddie Flores Jr., a local businessman who spearheaded the effort to make the community center a reality.

The grand opening is scheduled for Tuesday.

The building near the Oahu Sugar Mill is to incorporate businesses, a health clinic, community groups and recreational activities.

But the center will serve not only Filipinos, but the entire community with social, educational and medical services, officials said.

Flores and fellow Filipino businessmen Roland Casamina led the effort behind building the center, which has received major donations from charitable groups and government agencies. *AP*

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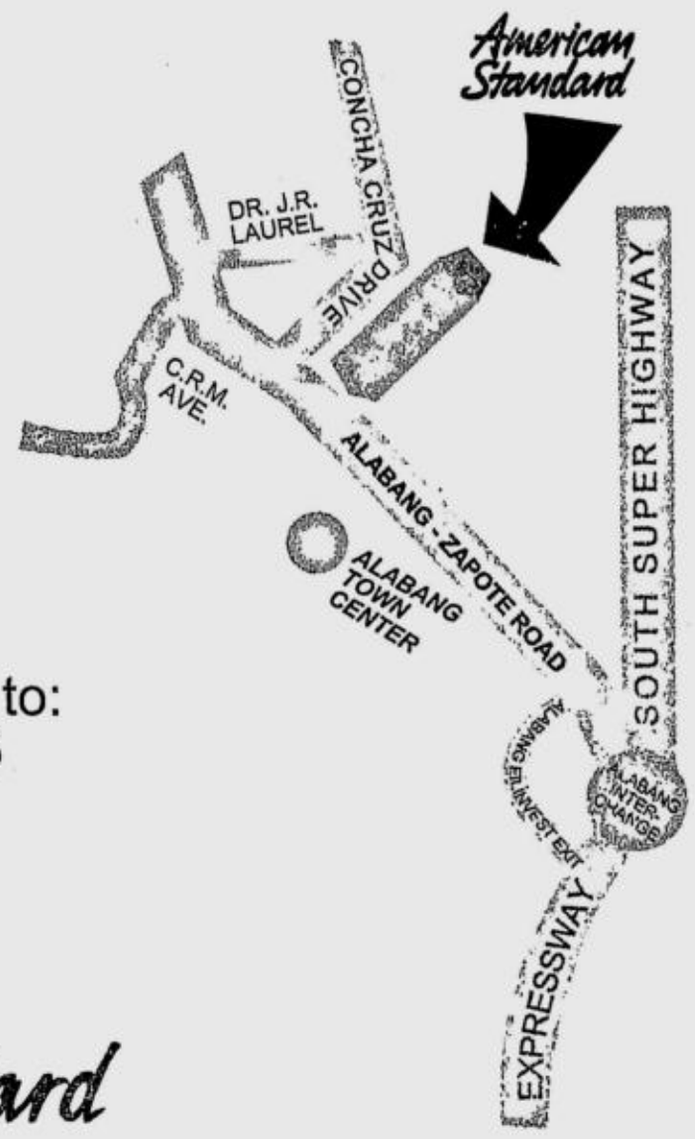

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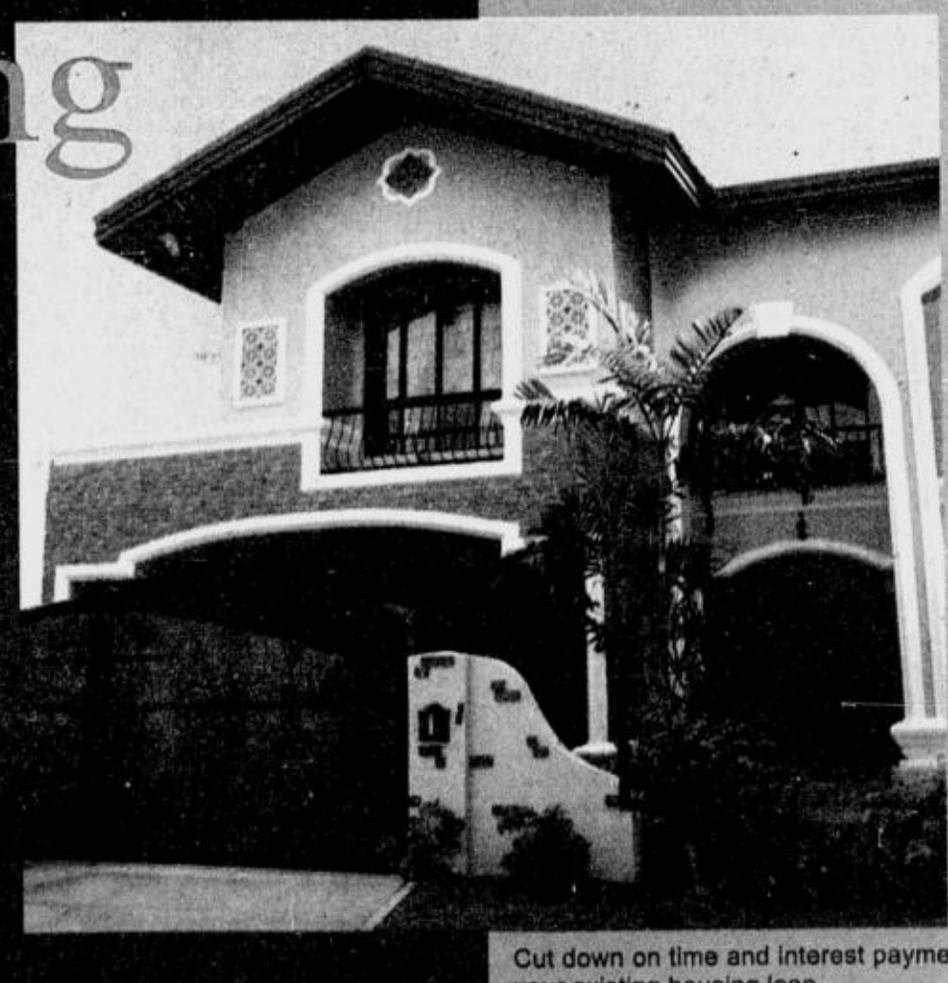

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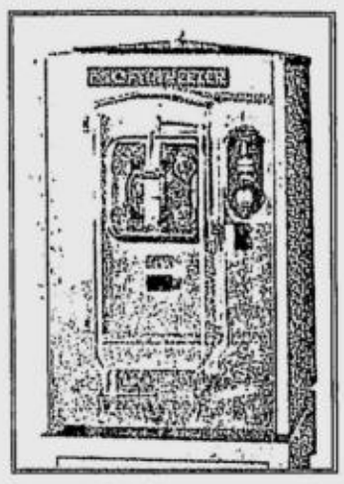

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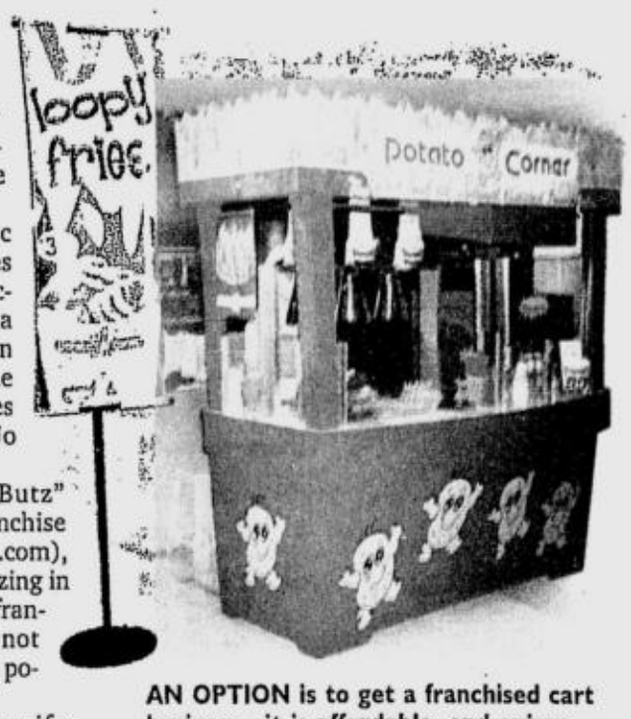
SAM'S VENDO CORP.

PAUL A. (not his real name), unlike most of us, hates Fridays. In fact, this junior executive dreads it. When asked why he did not have the usual TGIF attitude, he reveals that Friday is the time he reports to his boss.

And now with the economic crunch and with many companies closing or trimming down, the specter of losing his job has become a worrisome possibility for Paul. Even if his performance is quite good, he worries that cost-cutting measures may label him a "redundate." No wonder, he fears Fridays.

But according to Armando "Butz" Bartolome, president of GMB Franchise Developers (www.gmbfranservice.com), the home-grown company specializing in franchise development and other franchise-related services, this does not have to be so if Paul had a fallback position—a business of his own.



AN OPTION is to get a franchised cart business—it is affordable, and enjoys mobility.

Butz works in tandem with wife Lyndah and they have been developing franchises for the past four years, helping companies like Figaro Coffee Co., Sacred Heart School, Goto King, Potato Corner and many others bloom into robust enterprises.

Butz himself has 29 years of franchise development experience having been the regional operations manager of Shakey's Pizza. His stint at the multinational firm brought him to numerous Asian and Middle Eastern countries where he was tasked to set up its franchise network.

For Butz, getting a business is the best way to protect oneself from the current unpredictable economic condition. "One thing going for investors now is that there are already many franchises that offer affordable franchise fees. Gone are the days when you have to cough out at least a million bucks to get a franchise."

He remarked, "Now, with only a quarter of a million—or even less—you can buy a franchise of a reputable business that will give you the security you need for you and your family."

And for the above budget, he advises a franchise that offers cart operations.

"Something like Potato Corner (534-5845 to 46) would be a good choice," he says. "It has been in the business for quite some time now."

"What's good about a cart is that it is mobile—hence transferable. It can easily and readily be moved to a new location should it not deliver the numbers," he remarked. "The rental is also much lower," he added.

He, then, offers some tips on how to choose a viable cart franchise.

• No such thing as a wonder franchise. Beware of franchises that offer "too good to be true" promises—rock-bottom franchise fees, no-fail schemes, quick ROI (return of investment) and the like. These could be fly-by-night frauds that are only out for your money.

• Go for the name. A good, popular brand is easier to sell. More often than not, these are the pioneers of the business. Take Potato Corner, for example. It was the first to market flavored French fries. So now when you think of favored French fries, you inevitably think Potato Corner.

• Fit for the tight. It's a tough world out there so you have to be fit to survive. Since the Philippines has been through some tough times, pick a company that has weathered them all with a commendable track record to boot!

• It's all in the system. A system is what keeps a product more than just a fad. This is what keeps an originator ahead of the pack, especially because commercial mimicry is a regretable reality in Philippine business. Butz remarks, "Ten years ago, *pumunta ka sa ilalim ng tulay* and you would find somebody selling flavored fries. But where are they now?" Only the one with a system lasted—Potato Corner. In fact, it has outlasted its numerous copycats.

• Mean business. Keep in mind that you are in it for the service and, of course, for the money. This means that you must make sure you give it your best.

• Your heart will lead to the right cart. What's your passion? If your business is close to your interests ... your inclinations, chances are you will no longer see it as work.

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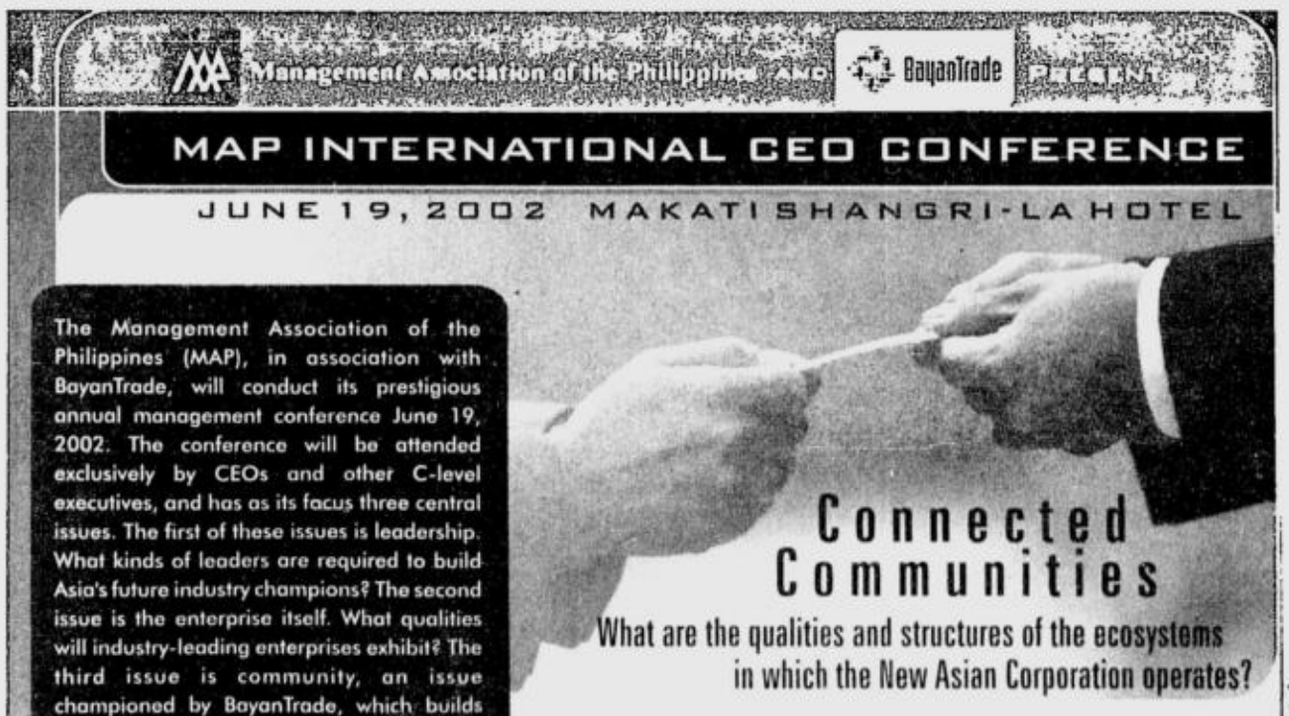

The Management Association of the Philippines (MAP), in association with BayanTrade, will conduct its prestigious annual management conference June 19, 2002. The conference will be attended exclusively by CEOs and other C-level executives, and has as its focus three central issues. The first of these issues is leadership. What kinds of leaders are required to build Asia's future industry champions? The second issue is the enterprise itself. What qualities will industry-leading enterprises exhibit? The third issue is community, an issue championed by BayanTrade, which builds and connects online communities. What will be the nature of the relationship between the enterprise and the various elements of the ecosystem in which it operates?

Each of these issues will be discussed from three perspectives: competence, character, and contribution in five panels composed of world-class international and local speakers and two plenary sessions.

Connected Communities

What are the qualities and structures of the ecosystems in which the New Asian Corporation operates?

PANEL THREE
NETWORKS: THE NEW ASIAN ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY
"Networks: The New Asian Corporation," zeroes in on the community issue and will dissect the qualities and structures of the ecosystems in which the New Asian Corporation operates, as well as, the roles of the different players. Among the trends to be discussed are supply chain management (SCM) and inter-enterprise collaboration, customer relationship management (CRM), e-marketplaces, shared service centers, core competencies, and mergers and acquisitions (M&A), alliances, and joint ventures.

MODERATOR:
Carol E. Carreon, President and CEO, BayanTrade

PANELISTS:
Luis Miguel Aboitiz, V.P., Aboitiz Equity Ventures
Toby Marion, Asia CEO, Thomas Group
Sandy Kemper, President, Global Trading Web

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ROBERT S. KAPLAN
AUTHOR OF THE BALANCED SCORECARD

PANELIST

SANDY KEMPER
PRESIDENT, GLOBAL TRADING WEB

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FORT Bonifacio Development Corp. (FBDC) recently forged a contract of lease agreement with Le Masora Manila, a commercial retail operator and developer for an expansion project called Fort Strip. Present during the contract signing were (from left) FBDC business development manager Joel C. Perez, FBDC chief financial officer Jose Ma. Lim. Le Masora Manila chief operating officer Marites Viado-Cruz and Le Masora Manila managing director Raymond Cruz.

Deal signed for retail center at Fort Bonifacio

FORT Bonifacio Development Corp. (FBDC) announced it recently signed a lease agreement with Le Masora Manila, a commercial retail operator and developer, for the construction of more than 7,000 square meter gross floor area in the expansion of the Fort Square retail and entertainment center.

Called the Fort Strip, the expansion project includes a two-story complex of restaurants, retail and commercial establishments in an open-air, plaza setting. The complex will be integrated into the current Fort Square commercial center through themed walkways, and will present an architecturally European exterior: extensive use of verandas, bay windows, wooden shutters and other treatments.

"With our agreement with Le Masora Manila, we are fast on our way to returning the Fort Square in the Bonifacio Global City back into the premiere entertainment center in Metro Manila," said Vicente C. Tinsay III, senior vice president for commercial operations of FBDC. "Within a matter of months, a diversified tenant mix of many new high-end and middle-range commercial establishments will open, offering a range of new options for entertainment seekers."

Le Masora Manila successfully redeveloped a warehouse located across the prestigious Ateneo University in Quezon City into the well-known food and retail complex, "The Strip." With the success of The Strip in Quezon City, we believe that participating in the expansion of The Fort Square is a prime opportunity that will present benefits not only to the Bonifacio Global City, but to the greater Metro Manila region as a whole," said Marites Viado-Cruz, chief operating officer of Le Masora Manila.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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SundayBIZ

Making neighborhood health care available

MICHAEL WASSMER

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

WHEN pediatrician Michael Wassmer went to Australia as part of his studies, he noticed that there were a lot of small 24-hour clinics in the heart of residential communities and small towns.

Residents would regularly go to these clinics, have themselves checked even if they were not really feeling sick, then go home.

Wassmer saw that the residents in Australia became more interested in making sure that they were in good health because the clinic were at their doorstep.

"I thought that it was a good idea to have something similar in Manila because it is heavily populated and going to a hospital can be a challenge," Wassmer says in an interview.

When he came back to the Philiippines, Wassmer broached the idea of setting up clinics to four friends and associates who, like him, had clinics at the Makati Medical Center. They immediately joined up.

"We had no prior business experience. We just had a vision of what we wanted to do and we went right inot it. We had no feasibility study but we were optimistic that it would work," Wassmer explains.

So after a year of discussing the pros and cons of the business plan, the partners pooled their resources and the first Commcare membership clinic was set up in Merville, Paranaque on Jan. 4, 1999.

"We put it up there because two of us lived in the area so we knew the community. We went from house to house to give flyers and let them know that there was now a 24-hour clinic in the area," Wassmer says.

For an annual membership fee of between P500 and P715 a year, members can consult with a cardiologist, pediatrician, dermatologist, endocrinologist (for diabetic patients) and thyroid specialists.

Commcare members can also consult with other specialists such as an opthalmologist, urologist, allergologist, psychiatrist and a dentist at discounted rates.

"We also invested in diagnostic services to check up on the vitals of our members such as blood pressure, blood and urine. We also have facilities to help stabilize patients who suffer heart attacks before we transfer them to a hospital," Wassmer says.

Doctors could also be asked to do house calls to help members who can not go the clinic or to a hospital.

"We shared the vision of going back to the old days when doctors still made house calls. We want to bring the services to the community to help them think more about prevention of diseases rather than cure," Wassmer says.

He laments the Filipino habit of waiting until the last minute before seeing a doctor.

This often leads to more expensive treatments and even death because the disease was not caught in the early, curable stages.

This can be attributed to the inconvenience of going to a hospital where a patient has to wait for hours to see a doctor, not to mention the high price for medical service.

Wassmer says Commcare hopes to provide an efficient but affordable alternative to those who want to access health services.

The Commcare network has now total three—Merville, Better Living and Parañaque. There are offers to put up more in other communities.

"We believe that the communities accepted us because we develop rapport with the members. We are part of their community and we stress on efficiency and quality control. We offer an alternative," Wassmer says.

He admits that it is only lately that the partners are paying more close attention to the financial side of the business.

They hired a professional general manager to handle that side of the business to leave them free and clear to do what they were trained to do—help the sick.

"Our ultimate goal is to have one in every municipality," Wassmer says.

'Paper dreams, but solid hopes'

DR. Reynaldo Rafisura was then in the town of Villanueva in the province of Misamis Oriental when he chanced upon a Design Mobile of the Product Development and Design Center of the Philippines (PDDCP) sometime in 1987. Making paper out of cogon grass drew his interest for two reasons: first, he was looking for a project for the People's Economic Council (PEC) in Salay that he headed and the activity seemed an easy enough undertaking, and second, cogon was abundant in the town and thus, would not pose resource constraints.

When PEC expressed interest in the proposed activity, a three-day training course on papermaking was arranged with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). Of the over 50 people who attended the seminar, 10 dared to participate in a full-blown business activity. Working capital was raised via a raffle while very basic tools were sourced from among them or their network of friends.

For materials, the group experimented first with old newspapers, then rice straw before moving into cogon. In November of the same year, the group received its first order—50 pieces that were to go into a program invitation—and forthwith, a negative reaction upon delivery.

The customers remarked that the sheets were no better than eggshell trays.

Initially disheartened, the group saw an opportunity for improvement when they heard of the Duntog Foundation, an NGO based in Baguio that was also into handmade papermaking. One worker was sent for a month-long training who, in turn, shared what she reamed with the rest of the group. From cogon, they also used abaca fiber, pineapple leaves and salago bark.

From sheets, they also expanded to the production of other items such as cards, frames, boxes and other decorative items.

The group's movement up the knowledge curve was facilitated by the timely assistance of the Department of Science and Technology in 1989. Then Secretary Ceferino Follosco had the DOST Provincial Office deliver a specially fabricated cutter. The DOST's Forest Products Research and Development Institute (FPRDI) also sent an expert on dyeing technology to educate the group on the step-by-step dyeing process.

The DOST's assistance also covered the group's continuing efforts at improvement. In 1995, through the venture financing assistance of the Technology Application and Promotion Institute (TAPI), the group acquired modern equipment such as a semi-automatic straight cutter, oval and circular cutter, heavy-duty blender and slurry mixer.

These not only improved the production line itself but also greatly assisted in product development efforts.

In 1997, the DOST offered its Manufacturing Productivity Extension Program for Export-oriented Enterprises (MPEX) to help upgrade the group's efficiency and productivity. A team of consultants was dispatched to evaluate the shop floor and overall operations and propose improvements for these.

On the administrative aspect, the consultants prescribed the formalization of specific roles and functions to delineate authority and accountability. The use of official forms and adoption of basic human resource checks on absences and tardiness were advised. Quality control points were identified on the shop floor to address production bottlenecks. *Philexport News and Features*

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Covenant Health System (CHS) from Lubbock, Texas, will be returning for its **4th visit** to the Philippines for recruitment of **NURSES** to be employed in their hospitals. At the present time, **IPAMS/HealthStar** has deployed **59** nurses together with bona fide dependents now enjoying a new life and rewarding career at Covenant Health System in Lubbock since its first trip in September 1999. Additional **50** nurses will be deployed before December 2002 and another **50** nurses are projected to be deployed before June 2003. *CHS* has worked hard to make sure that each nurse that it has offered employment, during its previous recruiting trips, is successful in achieving the goal of living and working in the United States.

HealthStar International Inc., a major staffing company from **Houston, Texas** will be in town on **June 20th to 27th, 2002** identifying nurses for its client, ***Covenant Health System*** of **Lubbock, Texas. Mr. Craig Gwinner** of **HealthStar** together with **Mesdames Edith Blackburn, Director of H.R.,** and **Richelle Watkins, Recruitment & Retention Coordinator** of **Covenant Health System** will conduct final interview, selection, and execution of contracts at the following areas:

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AusAID

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) is responsible for the delivery of Australia's Development Cooperation Program to the Philippines. AusAID is now seeking applicants to fill an expected vacancy in the position of:

PROJECT OFFICER – DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Applicants should have a very good understanding of aid program issues and practices, and general development issues. A capacity to deal with Australian contractors and/or local consultants is essential. A willingness to travel throughout the Philippines, particularly Mindanao is also required. The successful applicant will be responsible in contributing to the efficient and effective delivery of the development cooperation program by providing effective activity management, quality policy input, and administrative support within a multi-functional cross cultural team.

The key responsibility areas of the position are:

1. **Managing resources** - contribute to efficient and effective utilization of human, financial, material and other resources in accordance with relevant policies and procedures.
2. **Managing the implementation of a program portfolio** - manage a range of activities (programs, projects and facilities) within particular livelihood, geographic and or cross cutting areas in accordance with relevant AusAID policies, procedures and quality standards.
3. **Support for program development** - contribute to the development, formulation and review of policies, programs and activities in particular livelihood, geographic and or cross cutting areas.
4. **General representation and liaison** - contribute to the establishment and strengthening of effective relationships with development cooperation partners and stakeholders. Contribute to raising awareness of the Australian Development Cooperation Program
5. **Support for AusAID's corporate programs and priorities** - support for the effective and efficient implementation of Corporate programs and priorities. Actively participate and respond to corporate initiatives.
6. **Administrative, logistic, and technical support** - Provide appropriate administrative, logistic and technical support for the implementation of the Development Cooperation Program.

Applicants should address their written applications against the following criteria:

ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE:
- ❑ Good appreciation of development issues and knowledge of key national & key international agencies
- ❑ Knowledge of GOP development priorities
- ❑ Work planning and organizational skills
- ❑ Good negotiation and facilitation skills
- ❑ Demonstrated liaison/ communication skills
- ❑ Working knowledge of Microsoft office software applications
- ❑ Good command of written and spoken English
- ❑ Technical writing skills
- ❑ Strong analytical skills

EXPERIENCES AND/OR QUALIFICATIONS:
- ❑ Minimum 2 years experience in program/ project development and management
- ❑ Experience in working as part of multi-cultural communities
- ❑ Experience in dealing with donors, the government, NGOs and other related institutions
- ❑ Proven experience in working as part of an effective team
- ❑ Tertiary qualifications

The vacancy is expected to become available in July 2002. The commencing salary is negotiable within the range of P29,765.57 to P37,989.25 per month. The position is available on a 12-month renewable contract basis with a probationary period of 3 months.

Applications addressing the above criteria and including details of two work-related referees should be sent to the following address by 24 June, 2002.

THE COUNSELLOR (DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION)
Development Cooperation Section – Australian Embassy
PO Box 1071, Makati, Metro Manila

Envelopes should be clearly marked **"PROJECT OFFICER - AUSAID"**. Only those selected for interview will have their applications acknowledged.

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INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL & MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.
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QATAR AIRWAYS - The expanding and growth oriented airline is looking to fill the following positions based in Doha.. State of Qatar..

AIRCRAFT MECHANICS
VIP FLIGHTS (Ref. Mech/65/02)

CANDIDATES WITH INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE APPRENTICESHIP / TRAINING HAVING AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS MAINTENANCE EXPERIENCE IN EITHER **A&C** OR **AVIONICS** ON ANY TWO OF THE FOLLOWING AIRCRAFT: **A340-200, A310, A320 & A319.**

APPLICANTS MUST BE ABLE TO RECTIFY THE DEFECTS UNSUPERVISED AND MUST HAVE EXCELLENT COMMAND OF BOTH WRITTEN AND SPOKEN ENGLISH.

MATERIAL PLANNERS

CANDIDATES MUST BE BELOW 40 YEARS OLD PREFERABLY COLLEGE GRADUATES WITH MINIMUM OF FIVE (5) YEARS RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN AIRLINES OR AVIATION RELATED ENGINEERING DISCIPLINE. MINIMUM OF TWO (2) YEARS EXPERIENCE AS MATERIALS PLANNER COVERING AT LEAST TWO AIRBUS AIRCRAFT TYPE. CANDIDATES MUST BE COMPUTER LITERATE AND HAVE GOOD COMMAND OF WRITTEN & SPOKEN ENGLISH.

STOREKEEPERS

CANDIDATES MUST BE BELOW 35 YEARS OLD PREFERABLY COLLEGE GRADUATES WITH MINIMUM OF FIVE (5) YEARS RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN AIRLINES OR AVIATION RELATED ENGINEERING DISCIPLINE. KNOWLEDGE OF CIVIL AVIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS (FAR/JAR/CAA). MUST BE COMPUTER LITERATE AND HAVE GOOD COMMAND OF WRITTEN & SPOKEN ENGLISH.

THE POSITIONS CARRY COMPETITIVE SALARIES AND BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY PLUS EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES. THE STATE OF QATAR HAS NO INCOME TAX.

Personally apply soonest with your comprehensive resume and covering letter quoting the above reference number, giving full details of your career development to-date together with a copy of your valid passport, and 2 pcs recent passport size photographs to:

IPAMS
Overseas Recruitment Div.
(Accre. No. 63183-1)
INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.
1455 Leon Guinto Sr. St., 1004 Malate
Metro Manila, Philippines

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: WWW.IPAMS.COM.PH
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For inquiries, please fax your resume to 372-4204.
For more information, call Sheila Mendoza at 372-3548 to 49.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

SECRETARIES

Applicants must have college degree or 4-year secretarial course; at least five years of progressively responsible administrative/secretarial experience; proficient in typing, stenography and word processing. An excellent command of oral and written English is highly desirable. Knowledge of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and other common software preferred. Word processing, typing, steno and English skills will be tested.

Compensation commensurate to work experience and previous salary. In addition to annual salary, employee will be entitled to vacation/sick leave privileges, mid-year and year-end bonuses, health/life insurance coverage and a retirement plan.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN JUNE 14, 2002.

SEND LETTER OF APPLICATION WITH COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ TO:

Human Resources Division
P.O. Box EA 423
1000 Ermita, Manila

KHO BUSTOS MALCONTENTO ARGOSINO LAW OFFICES
needs

ASSOCIATE LAWYER

- Must be a successful examinee of 1999, 2000, or 2001 Bar Exams
- Must be willing to do full-time litigation and corporate work
- Must be computer literate

Please send comprehensive resumé and ID picture to:

AL C. ARGOSINO
Suite 407, 4th Floor, Prestige Tower Condominium
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center
Pasig City, Metro Manila
Tel. No. 634-1074; 634-1491

Republic of the Philippines
Polytechnic University of the Philippines
Manila

THE BOARD OF REGENTS
thru
SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR PRESIDENT
(Created by PUP Board of Regents through BOR Resolution No. 156 S. 2002).

VACANT POSITION
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT
(SUC PRESIDENT IV)

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS SET BY THE PUP BOARD OF REGENTS
1. Not more than 61 years old on the date of his/her application for the position
2. Filipino Citizen
3. Academically qualified, preferably an earned Doctorate Degree
4. Administrative experience in public or private service
5. Excellent managerial skills, proven strong leadership and financial expertise
6. Pleasing personality

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION
1. Curriculum vitaé
2. Disclosure of cases pending from Sandiganbayan, Office of the Ombudsman and Regional/Municipal Trial Courts, clearance from NBI
3. Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the past three (3) years
4. ITR for the past three (3) years

NOTE:
- In case of nomination by other parties, the same should be accompanied by statement of the nominee of his willingness to serve.
- The nominee or applicant should be ready for an interview and public presentation at anytime set by the committee.
- The winning applicant should be ready to assume office immediately upon selection.
- All the applications should be submitted not later than July 15, 2002 to:

Atty. Estellita de la Rosa
PUP Board Secretary
Polytechnic University of the Philippines
Añonas, Sta. Mesa
City of Manila

(Sgd.) Dante V. Liban
Chairman,
Search Committee for PUP President

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*Male or Female not more than 30 years old
*Resident of any of the ff. Areas:
Manila, Makati, Quezon City, Caloocan, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Bacolod Cagayan De Oro, Naga, Bicol, Legaspi, Palawan, CALABARZON
*Graduate of any four year course
*With good communication skills and pleasing personality
*With excellent marketing skills, smart and customer oriented
*Hardworking, trustworthy, can work under minimum supervision
*Marketing and selling skills is a must
*Computer literate

Interested Applicants may personally submit, fax or mail their comprehensive resume and TOR on or before June 22,2002 to:
HEAD OFFICE & SHOWROOM
, VY DOMINGO JEWELLERS INC
UNIT 701 VFP Bldg. 2, Veterans Road
Veterans Center, Taguig, Metro Manila, 1630
fax no. (02) 8211862
For further inquiries, please call:
(02) 8380946; (02) 8384851; (02) 8390060
loc 119 or 128
look for Nenet / Cholo (0917)9559964

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QUALITREADERS, INC.
Reccaping Company
are in need of the following positions:

SECRETARY - with experience
23 years old & above, a graduate of any four year course, honest, virtuous, reliable, computer literate, & good in oral and written communication.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER & SALES REPRESENTATIVE - with experience
Male or Female, 23 years old & above, college graduate with valid drivers license (male) self starter, possesses good moral character, good in oral & written communication.

Apply at 188 Reparo St. Sta. Quiteria Caloocan City and look for Ms. EUNICE S. YAP.

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is looking for
TOP CALIBER, DYNAMIC ***INSTRUCTOR*** *in*

B.S. IN NURSING

- must be at least Master's Degree in relevant field
- to teach General Education subjects (English, Math, Pilipino, Philosophy, History, etc...)
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- Attractive compensation package
- Convenient location for Taguig, Pateros, Pasig, Q.C., Mandaluyong, Makati, San Juan & Metro Manila residents
- pls. bring necessary documents (resume, diploma, transcript, etc...)

Address : 3/F HATCHASIA BLDG. FORT BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY (Yellow Bldg. near S&R and Jollibee, near Kalayaan flyover Edsa)
For Inquiries: TEL:
818.0945 / 818.0946 / txt 09198084070

A child and youth welfare agency is need of

ASSISTANT AGENCY DIRECTOR

- Must be 35 to 45 years old
- Master's Degree holder in Social Work, Management or its equivalent
- Proficient in English Communications (written and oral)
- Excellent Interpersonal Skills
- Proficient in Program Planning, Evaluation and Management
- Must be computer literate (Microsoft Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, MS Access, MS Project)
- Must be a resident of Bicol (Albay)

Interested applicants may submit their application letter and resumé to:

ZALDY O. ABAINZA, Ed. D.
Agency Director
CSCDI-Tabaco
Riosa Street, Tabaco City
Or by email: abainza@globalink.net.ph
Or call: (63)(52) 487-5170; 830-0028

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
FOR COLOR SEPARATION COMPANY

A. MACINTOSH OPERATOR
- Female
- Single
- Not more than 30 years old
- With or without experience, willing to be trained.

B. MACHINE OPERATOR
- Male
- High School/College graduate
- Not more than 30 years old
- With or without experience, willing to be trained

NOTE: Bring bio-data with picture/NBI clearance, Transcript of records

ADDRESS: 1174 PASONG TAMO ST., MAKATI CITY • TEL. 890-7279

CASCADE

Department of Agriculture
CARABALLO & SOUTHERN CORDILLERA
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
A PROGRAMME FOR SELF-RELIANCE
Bayombong 3700, Nueva Vizcaya
Telefax (078) 321-3611; Tel (078) 321-4128 or 321-2605
Email: cascade_erp@hotmail.com

GINHTUANG MASAGANANG ANI Go Modern Agriculture

INVITATION TO SUBMIT LETTER OF INTEREST FOR
Local Technical Assistance/Specialist for HEALTH and/or NUTRITION to provide technical assistance in the Implementation of Health and Nutrition Programmes. The consultant will undertake:

- ✓ Review recommended strategies, provide regular technical supervision and assist CASCADE in the implementation of Health and Nutrition Programme.
- ✓ Prepare modified training modules on basic and upgrading courses of Nutrition Programme.
- ✓ Provide direct assistance to the Provincial Offices in the implementation of nutrition related activities in collaboration with the Provincial Nutrition Action Office and the Municipal Nutrition Action Offices.

Minimum requirement for the position:
1. Five (5) years relevant experience in the delivery of Health and or Nutrition programmes.
2. Extensive experience in conceptualisation and implementation of Health and Nutrition in an upland environment.
3. Previous relevant experience in a Local Government Unit environment is a plus.

Letter of Intent may be for Health or Nutrition or both. Deadline of Submission of Letter of Intent with full CV is 15 July 2002 and must be addressed to:

THE PROJECT CO-DIRECTORS
DA-CASCADE
Bonfal West, 3700 Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
Tel. (078) 321-4128 or 321-2605
Fax (078) 321-3611

** Only qualified candidates will be entertained and responded to.*

CASCADE is a special project of the Department of Agriculture jointly funded by the Government of the Philippines and the European Union

---

Reedley International School
needs **Highly Experienced Teachers of:**

• Math • Science • Math for Honor Students • ESL
• Music • Filipino • French • Guidance Counselors

(All Grade Levels)

• Applicants must be graduates of the Ateneo, UP, DLSU, UST or Foreign Universities, LET Holder and/or with Masteral Units and willing to start immediately.

• Submit complete resume with picture to Administration (c/o Sally), Rosemarie Lane corner Pasig Blvd. or email us at reedley@aslagate.com.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE
WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
1) Male or female
2) At least 22 years old
3) With experience in selling Identification Cards (ID) and ID computer system

Please submit your resumé as soon as possible with ID picture at:

INFINITE SPECS CORPORATION
B&M Building, 116 Aguirre Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

BOOKKEEPER
- Female, Single- 22-28 years old
- Computer Literate (MS Excel, MS Word)
- BS Accounting Graduate, at least 1 year Exp

SALES REPRESENTATIVE
- Male or Female less than 30 years old
- At least 2 years experience in sales
- Computer Literate (MS Word, MS Excel)

FOR APPOINTMENT: CALL 810-3563/892-1862
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The Opportunity of a Lifetime Awaits YOU!
Consider Migrating to Australia attend an:
Australian Migration Seminar

Where: PENTHOUSE MAKATI STOCK EXCHANGE, AYALA AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
When: JUNE 15 & 22, 2002 - SATURDAY 1PM
JUNE 16 & 23, 2002 - SUNDAY 1PM

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Australia is looking for skilled migrants such as yourself, offering a new opportunity for you. Australian working conditions are amongst the best in the world and the cost of living is quite low when compared to the United States or Canada.

And Australia is only a short flight from the Philippines, which means you are never far from family and friends.

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To attend the Migration Seminar we need you to register TODAY!
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Lead'M Enterprises Pty Ltd

LOURDES SCHOOL OF MANDALUYONG
Shaw Blvd., City of Mandaluyong
Tel. Nos. 631-6310; 631-6307; 631-6356; 632-9547;
Fax No. 631-6310

WANTED IMMEDIATELY!!!
HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER

Applicant must be Catholic, not more than 35 years old, with above average scholastic records and must have passed the PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR TEACHERS. ATTRACTIVE SALARY AND BENEFITS AWAIT SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT.

Apply personally and bring your transcript of records.

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Good Grades, 7 Years Experience
Knows how to Repair NAILS MACHINES P600/Day

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88% Knows in Electrical Wiring and Lathe Machine
7 Years Experience P800/Day

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Male or Female 18-25 years old. At least second year college. Apply in person (for interview). Submit resumé with 2x2 ID picture.

[illegible]

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CGFNS/NCLEX (Weekends)
TOEFL, TWE, TSE, IELTS (Weekdays)

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208 B Atrium Building, Makati Avenue, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 811-4068; 894-1254; 894-1201

The Philippine Trade Training Center is in need of a Deputy Executive Director

dti DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES

The Center designs and implements export training modules to update Filipino entrepreneurs on international market trends

Filing of Application:
10-21 June 2002

Address to:
Human Resource Development Service (HRDS)
6/F, Trade and Industry Building
361 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue
Makati City
hrds@dti.dti.gov.ph

Applications received after **21 June** will not be accepted

The position requires candidates

To have at least three (3) years managerial/supervisory experience in planning, organizing, directing and supervising:

- The development, implementation and management of training courses/program in:
  - ✓export operations and management
  - ✓international marketing
  - ✓testing and inspection
  - ✓trade exhibition
- The day-to-day operations and management of a training institution.
- The promotion and marketing of exhibition and training facilities.

To have undertaken various management training and special courses related to the job.

To preferably have a Career Service Executive Eligibility (CSEE) or Career Executive Service (CES) Eligibility

To have a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration/ Commerce, Management, Public Administration, or other Business-related courses.

June 9, 2002 – Inquirer

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Office of the Regional Governor
Cotabato City

ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK
Scholarship Programme in the Philippines

IDB-SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IN THE PHILIPPINES

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) through its Counterpart Organization (CPO) in the Philippines, the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) under the leadership of Regional Governor **DR. PAROUK S. HUSSIN**, is pleased to announce the opening of scholarship grants for Muslim students for Hijrah Year 1423 (Academic Year 2002 - 2003). The Program is geared towards the development of muslim communities in non-member countries of IDB by providing scholarships to poor but deserving muslim students in the form of interest-free loan that will partly cover the grantees' cost of living, clothing, books, tuition fees, and medical expenses.

I. QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must not be more than 24 years old;
2. Financially in need and not a recipient of any other scholarship;
3. Willing to help develop his/her community after graduation;
4. Must have good grades in English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Biology;
5. Enrolled as First Year College for AY 2002-2003 in any of the following fields of study;

Medical Proper*, Dentistry Proper, Pharmacy, Medical Technology, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Nutrition, Food Technology, Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture (including Forestry and Fisheries), and Engineering (including Architecture, Aeronautical Engineering and Computer Science)**

* A baccalaureate degree acceptable as preparatory course for Medicine is required/
**Must have completed Pre-Dentistry

II. REQUIREMENTS (TO BE SUBMITTED IN TWO SETS):

1. Completely filled-up IDB Scholarship Programme Forms;
2. Original Certificate of enrollment from the Registrar (with list of subjects for first semester);
3. Certified true copy of Forms 137 & 138 (Permanent Record and Report Card);
4. Certified true copy of Birth Certificate or Joint Affidavit of Birth;
5. Certified true copy of Income Tax Return of Parents or Parents' Affidavit of Income;
6. Certification from an *Imam* or any recognized Muslim Organization that the applicant is a practicing muslim
7. For children of *Shuhada'* — Certification and endorsement by a recognized field commander of the Moro National Liberation Front
8. One (1) self-addressed stamped envelope marked priority mail, and;
9. Two (2) passport size photographs.

Note: 1. Incomplete papers will not be processed.
2. NO processing fee will be collected.

Application forms are FREE and available at the offices of:

MS. APASHRA R. TULAWIE, General Coordinator or
HJA. MAHANGSI S. UNDAIN, Secretariat
IDB Scholarship Programme in the Philippines
Manila Liaison Office-Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Unit 502 RCI Bldg.
105 Rada Street, Legaspi Village
Makati City
Tel. No. (02) 814-06-12 / Telefax No. (02) 814-06-13

MR. AL-SHARIDZ H. HAMSAIN
Regional Chief of Staff
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
ORG Complex
Cotabato City 9600
Tel. No. (064) 421-12-24 / (064) 421-12-25

USTADZ WAKIL S. TANJILIL
Director General and Acting Mufti, Region IX and Palawan
Salamat Islamic Institute
Salamat Village
San Roque, Zamboanga City 7000

All applications must be in by June 22, 2002. Applicants may hand carry or mail the requirements to:

IDB Scholarship Programme in the Philippines
Manila Liaison Office-Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Unit 502 RCI Bldg.
105 Rada Street, Legaspi Village
Makati City

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, CLEAR ESSVIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

EDITORIAL OFFICE ASSISTANT

(Legazpi Bureau)

- College graduate preferably major in Journalism, Mass Communication or English
- 2 years experience as an editorial assistant or jobs leading to it
- Computer skills, Communication skills, Writing skills, Interviewing skills, Research skills, Layouting skills, Encoding skills, Filing skills

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets,
Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
East Avenue, Quezon City

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

As stated in Republic Act 4136, otherwise known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code, please be reminded of the following:

1. A xeroxed copy of the Certificate of Registration (CR) or Certificate of Registration Encumbered (CRE) shall always be carried in the motor vehicle, as evidence of the registration of the motor vehicle described in the CR or CRE.
2. The CR or CRE (original or xeroxed copy) shall always be presented with subsequent applications for registration.

In this regard, all applicants for any motor vehicle registration transaction are required to present their CR or CRE. If the CR or CRE will not be presented, the stickers will not be released.

For your information and guidance.

(Sgd.) **ROBERTO T. LASTIMOSO**
Assistant Secretary

(PDI - June 9, 2002)

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF THE CLOSED RURAL BANK OF VICTORIA (Laguna), INC. (RBVI)

1. Pursuant to the commitment of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) to promptly service claims for insured deposits, initial payoff operation will be conducted in the closed Rural Bank of Victoria (Laguna), Inc. for the settlement of insured deposits with balances of P10,000.00 and below. Depositors whose deposit balances are within the said amount are requested to proceed directly to the designated payoff sites on the dates indicated in the table below. Receiving and processing of claims are scheduled from Monday to Friday during office hours.

RBVI Office/ Branch	Payoff Site	Duration of Payoff
Victoria (Laguna), Head Office	RB Victoria (Laguna), Inc. J.P. Rizal Street, Barangay Nanhaya Victoria, Laguna	June 10, 2002 to June 27, 2002
Batangas City Branch	RB Victoria (Laguna), Inc. Rizal Avenue corner P. Dandan Streets Batangas City	June 10, 2002 to June 19, 2002

2. Depositors are advised to present the following requirements to the PDIC representatives when filing their claims for insured deposits:
   a. Original evidence of deposit such as Savings Passbook and/or Certificate of Time Deposit; and
   b. Two (2) latest identification cards/documents (IDs) bearing the depositor's specimen signature.

   Other documents may be required by the PDIC representatives in the course of their processing of claims filed.
3. Pursuant to the provisions of R.A. 3591 as amended by R.A. 7400, the prescriptive date (last day) for filing of claims for insured deposits in the closed Rural Bank of Victoria (Laguna), Inc. is on **November 8, 2003**. After **November 8, 2003**, PDIC as insurer, shall no longer accept any claim for insured deposits maintained with the said closed bank.

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

(PDI – June 9 & 10, 2002)

WELCOME TO MY FORTUNE, YOUR FORTUNE!!!

We provide a window of opportunity that can offer people a chance to become successful in life to be able to attain **HEALTH, WEALTH** and **HAPPINESS**

Earn a minimum of P6500.00 to P100,000 ++ a week

Unbelievable but its true!!!

In this business, you don't need
- Big capital
- Huge establishment
- No overhead cost
- No risk

For more information please call

Wilson / Elizabeth Manila Branch
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Debbie - 09207231744 Marikina Branch
Agustina - 09194148325 Antipolo City
Necie - 09194740562 Pasig City
Beth - 09194055540 Mandaluyong City

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Science and Technology
Science Education Institute

Shaping the Future Now

Republic of the Philippines
SCIENCE EDUCATION INSTITUTE
Department of Science and Technology
3/F PTRI Bldg., Gen. Santos Avenue,
Bicutan, Tagig, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos. 837-0057, 837-2071 (DL) local 2386

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND BID

The Science Education Institute, Department of Science and Technology (SEI-DOST) through its Pre-qualifications, Bids and Awards Committee invites interested parties to pre-qualify and submit sealed bids for:

1 unit MOBILE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CLASSROOM (MITC)

Related bidding activities are as follows:

1. Issuance of pre-qualification forms	-	11 June 2002
2. Submission of pre-qualification Requirements	-	17 June 2002
3. Issuance of Notice to Pre-qualified Suppliers	-	18 June 2002

The bidding documents may be obtained from Ms. Edel Bustamante at Room 312, 3/F PTRI Bldg., Gen. Santos Avenue, Bicutan, Tagig, Metro Manila during office hours upon payment of FIVE HUNDRED (P500.00) which is non-refundable.

A pre-bid conference shall be held on **19 June 2002**, 10:00 a.m. at the SEI Conference Room, 3/F PTRI Bldg., Gen. Santos Avenue, Bicutan, Tagig, Metro Manila.

Sealed bid proposals shall be received until 10:00 a.m. of **June 26, 2002** at the SEI Conference Room, 3/F PTRI Bldg., Gen. Santos Avenue, Bicutan, Tagig, Metro Manila by the SEI PBAC after which the bid proposals shall be publicly opened in the presence of attending bidders. In case of failed bidding due to insufficient participating/responsive bidders, a re-bidding shall automatically be re-scheduled fifteen (15) calendar days after the announcement of a failure of bid at the same time and venue as the first bidding.

SEI-DOST reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bids as may be considered most responsive and advantageous to the government.

SEI-DOST neither assumes any obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of the bids nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **ESTER B. OGENA**
Director, SEI

(PDI - June 7, 8 & 9, 2002)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 90, QUEZON CITY

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR CORPORATE REHABILITATION WITH PRAYER FOR SUSPENSION OF PAYMENTS.
SPEC. PROC. NO. Q-01-45804

RAMCAR, INC., ORIENTAL & MOTOLITE CORP., ET AL.,
Principal Petitioners,
-and-
AMALGAMATED BATTERY COMPONENTS, INC., ET AL.,
Affiliate Petitioners,
x----------x

ORDER

This refers to the letter-request dated **May 6, 2002** of the Rehabilitation Receiver, Mr. Fortunato B. Cruz, for an extension of time from June 11, 2002 (the original period) to evaluate the Rehabilitation Plan in connection with the concerns of the various creditors which must be effectively addressed as much as possible and to submit his report containing his recommendation/s thereon to this Court, and for this Court to give him an additional seventy (70) days or until **August 20, 2002** within which to submit the required report/recommendation/s.

After carefully going over the letter-request in relation to all relevant pleadings, this Court finds merit in the reasons presented by the Rehabilitation Receiver in said letter-request.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, Mr. Fortunato B. Cruz is given an additional period of time of seventy (70) days or until **August 20, 2002** within which to submit the required report/recommendation/s.

The petitioners and their counsel and Mr. Fortunato B. Cruz (Rehabilitation Receiver) are ordered to cause the publication in its entirety of this Court's Order in the Manila Bulletin, the Philippine Daily Inquirer and other newspapers of general circulation in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao on June 9, 2002 so that all interested parties and the public may be informed of the latest development in this case.

SO ORDERED.

Quezon City, June 3, 2002.

(Sgd.) **REYNALDO B. DAWAY**
Presiding Judge

(PDI - June 9, 2002)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL REGION
MACABEBE, PAMPANGA

AUGUSTO O. JAYME,
Mortgagee,
- versus -
ANTONIO DE MESA for himself and as atty.-in-fact of REBECCA S. CRUZ, ALICIA S. CRUZ and LILIA S. CRUZ DE MESA,
Mortgagors.
x----------x

EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE
CASE NO. 02-0225-(M)

- NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE -

Upon petition of extra-judicial foreclosure of real estate mortgaged under Act 3135, as amended, filed by AUGUSTO O. JAYME, with postal address at No. 65 Gen. Lim St. Heroes Hill, Quezon City, against ANTONIO DE MESA for himself and as attorney-in-fact of Rebecca S. Cruz, Alicia S. Cruz and Lilia S. Cruz de Mesa of No. 39 Twin Hills, New Manila, Quezon City, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of May 15, 2002 amounted to ONE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN (P1,431,347.00) PESOS, exclusive of interest and penalty, attorney's fees and incidental expenses of the foreclosure, all secured by the said mortgaged the undersigned or her duly authorized deputy sheriff will sell at public auction on July 5, 2002 at 10 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Hall of Justice of Macabebe, Pampanga to the highest bidder for cash and in Philippine Currency, the herein properties, with all its improvements, to wit:

- TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 429989-R -

1. "A parcel of land (Lot No. 2708 of the cad. survey of Apalit, with the improvement thereon, situated in the Mun. of Apalit, Bounded on the E. by a Rd. on the S. by Lot Nos. 2786 and 2785, Beg. at a pt. marked "1" on plan, x x x containing an area of ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY SQUARE METERS (1,420) more or less. x x x
2. (Lot No. 2705) Beg. at a pt. marked "1" on plan, being N. 59 deg. 07'W., 504.50 m. from BLLM No. 7, thence S. 74 deg. 53'W., 6.94 m. to pt. 2, thence N. 53 deg. 28'W., 14.27 m. to pt. 3, thence N. 15 deg. 23'W., 18.93 m. to pt. 4, thence N. 78 deg. 26'E., 8.73 m. to pt. 5, thence S. 28 deg. 45'E., 30.44 m. to pt. of beg., containing an area of THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN SQ. METERS (315) more or less. x x x

Prospective buyers and bidders may investigate for themselves the above-described properties, Transfer Certificate of Title No. 429989-R and encumbrances thereon, if there be any.

Macabebe, Pampanga, June 7, 2002.

(Sgd.) ATTY. LEILA MAE H. MACAPAGAL
OIC - Clerk of Court

(Sgd.) PABLITO C. CLEMENTE, JR.
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished
Atty. Francisco A. Carandang Jr.
653-M dela Fuente St., Sampaloc, Manila

Antonio de Mesa
39 Twin Hills New Manila, Quezon City

(PDI - June 9, 16 & 23, 2002)

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OUR DEARLY BELOVED "PAPPY"

COL. ALFRED AENLLE XEREZ-BURGOS, SR. (RET.),

(GREAT-GRAND NEPHEW OF **FATHER JOSE BURGOS**,
NATIONAL HERO AND MARTYR)

BORN ON AUGUST 31, 1917

PEACEFULLY JOINED HIS CREATOR ON JUNE 7, 2002 AT THE AGE OF 84.

HIS LOVING CHILDREN,
BIBAY and **POMPEY NOLASCO**, **FREDDIE JR.** and **TINA XEREZ-BURGOS**,
BILIT and **FREDDIE ROSAL**, **TESS** and **TOMMY LOANZON**,

GRANDCHILDREN,
NINA and **DOUG**, **MIA** and **PAUL**, **MONCHU** and **PEBBLES**, **CONNIE** and **MARK**,
ARJAY, **RICA**, **ALBY** and **MARICAR**, **JOBY** and **ANNA**, **CARLO**, **ANNA**,
MARIVI and **STANLEY**, **MARGARITA**, **MIKO**, **MARTIN**, **PATRICIA**,

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN,
ERICA, **CY**, **LORENZO**, **SANDRO**, **PATRICIA**, **TOM**, **RAMON**, **MARTINA**, **CARA**, **JUANCHO**, **GABBY**,

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS,
REQUEST THE PIOUS READERS TO PRAY FOR THE ETERNAL REPOSE OF HIS SOUL.

His remains lie in state at the St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Susana Parish,
New Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City.

Necrological services will be held on Monday, June 10, 2002, 1:30 p.m.
at the Parish of St. James the Great, Ayala Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City.

Funeral Mass and interment will immediately follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Philippine National Red Cross or to the
Muntinlupa Development Foundation will be highly appreciated.

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ffi
Filia Foods, Inc.

The Officers and Staff of Filia Foods, Inc.
wish to announce with deep sadness
the passing of our beloved
Founding Chairman and Chairman Emeritus

ATTY. PACIFICO T. DE OCAMPO, SR.

who peacefully joined his Creator on June 8, 2002 at the age of 92.

His remains lie in state at the Capilla Del Señor,
Sanctuario de San Antonio, McKinley Road, Forbes Park.
Novena Masses will be held at 7:00 p.m., Funeral Mass will be
held on Tuesday, June 11, 2002 at 2:00 p.m.

Interment will immediately follow at the
De Ocampo Mausoleum, Manila Memorial Park,
Sucat, Parañaque City.

The CONGREGATION OF THE MISSION
(Vincentian Fathers & Brothers)
Philippine Province

requests your prayers for the eternal repose of the soul
of our beloved confrere, former Provincial Visitor
and Missionary in Japan

REV. FR. BENJAMIN "Ben" A. ORTAZON, C.M.

who died on June 3, 2002 at the age of 71
at St. Vincent de Paul House, Kobe City, Japan.

Mass and other services will be offered
on June 11, 2002, Tuesday, 3:00 p.m. at
St. Vincent de Paul Church, San Marcelino, Manila.

For more information, contact:
Fr. Maximino Rendon, CM
St. Vincent de Paul Church
Tel. Nos. 524-2011 loc. 500; 525-8217

Fr. Atilano Fajardo, CM
Congregation of the Mission
Tel. Nos. 456-3015; 456-3021; 456-3017

Our Dearly Beloved

PEDRO C. SAZON

Of Sta. Rita, Pampanga

Peacefully joined our Lord on June 06, 2002
at the age of 91.

His loving wife **HILARIA GARCIA** (†); children **Antonio, Sr.**, **Teofilo**, **Zenaida**, **Roberto**, **Renato**, **Serafina**, **Librado** (†) and **Magdalena**; sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, great grandchildren, sister, brother and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Inc., Guadalupe, Makati City.

Interment will be on June 11, 2002 at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after the 9am Mass.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS •

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate; ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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LANDCO PACIFIC
CORPORATION

ITS SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES

Announce with deep sadness
the passing of our beloved Founding Chairman
and Chairman Emeritus

Alfred Aenlle Xerez-Burgos, Sr.

Born on August 31, 1917

He peacefully joined his Creator
on June 7, 2002 at the age of 84.

His remains lie in state at the St. Jerome Emiliani
& St. Susana Parish, New Alabang Village,
Muntinlupa City.

Necrological services will be held
on Monday, June 10, 2002, 1:30 p.m.
at the Parish of St. James the Great,
Ayala Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City.

Funeral Mass and interment will immediately follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the
Philippine National Red Cross or
to the Muntinlupa Development Foundation
will be highly appreciated.

The Directors and Officers of

Tagaytay Grassland Company, Inc.

and its affiliates

Canyon Woods Resorts Club

and

Canyon Woods Homeowners Association

announce with deep sadness the passing of our beloved

CHAIRMAN

ALFRED AENLLE XEREZ-BURGOS, SR.

He shall be remembered in our prayers.
May he rest in peace.

THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM,
PHILIPPINE TOURISM AUTHORITY AND
CORREGIDOR FOUNDATION, INC.

Announce with deep regret the demise of

Col. Alfred Aenlle Xerez-Burgos, Sr. (Ret.)

Founder, and Immediate Past Executive Director,
Member, Board of Trustees

Who peacefully joined his Creator
on June 7, 2002 at the age of 84.

His remains lie in state at the St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Susana Parish, New Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City.

Necrological services will be held on Monday, June 10, 2002, 1:30 p.m. at the Parish of St. James the Great, Ayala Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City.

Funeral Mass and interment will immediately follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Philippine National Red Cross or to the Muntinlupa Development Foundation will be highly appreciated.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

In Loving Memory

On the Sixth Death Anniversary of our beloved

Tomas B. Aguirre

Holy Masses will be offered in his memory today, June 9, 2002, at the following Churches:

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine (New Manila, Quezon City)	*7:00 A.M.*
Santuario de San Antonio (Forbes Park, Makati City)	*6:00 P.M.*
Santuario de San Jose (Greenhills, San Juan, M.M.)	*7:15 A.M.*
Nuestra Señora de Guia Parish (Ermita, Manila)	*12:00 P.M.*
Our Lady of Loreto Parish (Bustillos, Sampaloc, Manila)	*11:00 A.M.*
St. Anthony Shrine (Sampaloc, Manila)	*9:30 A.M.*
Holy Family Parish (BF Las Piñas)	*6:00 A.M.* *7:00 P.M.*
Manila Cathedral (Intramuros, Manila)	*11:00 A.M.*
St. John Bosco Parish (Arnaiz St., Makati City)	*11:00 A.M.*
Parish Church of the Resurrection (BF Homes, Parañaque City)	*6:00 A.M.*
Holy Spirit Parish (BF Homes, Quezon City)	*7:00 A.M.*
Benedictine Abbey Parish (Mendiola, Manila)	*6:00 A.M.*

His family and relatives request the pious readers to remember him in their prayers..

"The Lord is my shepherd... He leadeth me to green pastures... He restoreth my soul... And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Psalm 23

Lovingly Remembered

So Sadly Missed

RICCARDO BIEN SURTIDA GRADDICK

"Riccl"

December 12, 1969 - June 11, 2001

His mother **Luz**; and his brother **Alvin** (†); invite friends and relatives to a Memorial Mass on the occassion of his

1st Death Anniversary

June 12 – 4:00 p.m.

St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori, Magallanes Village, Makati

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Bldg. No. 3, San Lazaro Comp.,
Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003
Tel. Nos. TL 743-8301 Local 1107, 1125
DL (632) 711-9502

SENTRONG SIGLA Health ang unal

May 30, 2002

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Various Hospital Equipment
IFB No. 2002-7-2(3)

The Department of Health (DOH) hereby invites sealed written bids for the procurement of various hospital equipment for the use of DOH Hospitals and other Local Government Hospitals, with an approved budget of Three Million One Hundred Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 3,112,500), chargeable against the National Center for Health Facility Development funds.

Only responsible bidders and duly accredited suppliers/ manufactures/distributors as certified by the DOH Supplier Accreditation Committee for Medical/Hospital Equipment are qualified to participate.

Interested eligible bidders may see the list of hospital equipment for bid, the specifications and quantity, and obtain other information from **Procurement and Logistics Service (PLS), Bldg. No. 26, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila. Tel. No. (632) 743-8301 loc. 3626 & 3627.**

A complete set of bidding documents may be obtained by interested bidders at **PLS from June 5 to June 28, 2002** upon payment of non-refundable **fee of Two Thousand Pesos (Php2,000)** only and upon submission of authenticated DOH Supplier's Accreditation Certificate.

A Pre-bidding Conference will be held at the **Central Office Bids and Awards Committee (COBAC) Conference Room, Bldg. No. 3, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta Cruz, Manila at 2:00 p.m. on June 18, 2002.**

Bids must be submitted to the **COBAC Conference Room at 2:00 p.m. on July 2, 2002.** All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in an amount equivalent to 2.5% of total amount of bids in the form of certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft/ guarantee confirmed by a reputable local bank, or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a reputable commerical bank.

DOH reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to award of contract without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds to the DOH.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health.

(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH, CESO II**
Assistant Secretary of Health
Chairperson, Central Office Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI - June 2 & 9, 2002)

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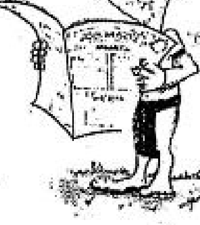

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#6 City Market Building
Magsaysay Avenue Baguio City
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Mr. Juanito Castro c/o Ms. Ruby Castro
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Fausta Village, Tabing-Ilog, Marilao, Bulacan
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EasyCall 141-267284
Mr. Rodolfo D. Gregorio
253 Rizal Street, Tarcan, Baliwag, Bulacan
Tel No. (044) 766-1260
Office Care Communications
Baliwag Shopping Center
2nd Floor BMG Building, Barrera Street
Poblacion, Baliwag, Bulacan
Cell No. (0910) 427-0048
Cabanatuan City
Mr. Ruel Capule
#7 Samonte Street Kapt. Pepe Subdivision
Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel No. (044) 463-0823
Mr. Hayward Pablo
#837 Zulueta Street, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
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Mr. Antonio Feliciano c/o Ms. Jean
Germalin Enterprise
387 Tandang Sora Avenue, Culiat, Quezon City
Tel Nos. 951-7468/931-0156
Rizal
Mr. Jesus Dimagiba
151 Col. Guido Street, Angono, Rizal
Tel Nos. 295-4263/651-0094
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 55% according to the 2000 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

DELIGHT DAD ON DADDY'S DAY

YOUR FATHER. THERE IS NO ONE IN THE WORLD QUITE LIKE HIM. SURELY HE DESERVES MORE THAN JUST THE USUAL CARD-AND-TIE PRESENT. ON HIS SPECIAL DAY, GIVE HIM A GIFT THAT IS AS UNIQUE AS HE IS.

EXPRESS YOUR LOVE FOR YOUR DAD – GREET HIM IN THE FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL SECTION OF THE INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS ON JUNE 16. FOR A DISCOUNTED RATE OF P50 PER LINE OR P150 PER COLUMN CENTIMETER, YOUR DAD ALSO GETS A CHANCE TO WIN GIFT CERTIFICATES IN OUR HIP HOP POP RAFFLE.

HIP HOP POP

SO THIS FATHER'S DAY, LET HIM KNOW THAT YOU'RE SIMPLY GRATEFUL AND PROUD JUST TO CALL HIM YOUR FATHER. FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT OR CALL ANY OF OUR BRANCHES.

RATES ARE VAT EXCLUSIVE AND APPLY ONLY ON THE JUNE 16 ISSUE.

PROMO MECHANICS

1. For every P200 worth of ad placement booked starting June 1, 2002 until June 15, 2002 for the Inquirer Classifieds Father's Day Special Section on June 16, 2002, the customer is entitled to receive one (1) raffle coupon.
2. Fill up raffle coupon with your name, address, tel. no., affix signature and your father's name, and drop in drop boxes located at Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts., 1231 Makati City.
3. Entries must be received by 5:00 pm of June 20, 2002 to qualify for the raffle draw during which 5 fathers/ winners will each win gift certificates from Rustan's worth PHP 1,000.00.
4. The raffle draw will be held on June 24, 2002 at 3:00 pm at the PDI office in the presence of an official DTI representative.
5. An individual may send more than one entry but can only win once in the raffle draw.
6. GCs are not convertible to cash.
7. Raffle draw winners will be notified by phone and registered mail and their names will be announced via print ads.
8. Winners can claim their GCs at the PDI office upon presentation of the notification letter and a valid ID.
9. GCs not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior approval from DTI.
10. Employees and staff of PDI, their advertising agency and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.
11. Promo is valid only in GMA. Gift Certificates are valid for one year and are acceptable at all branches.

Sample Ads

Happy Father's Day Daddy!
Love, Gabby, Miko, Isa, Johnny, Marla

To my Daddy, Nick:
Someday I'll make you proud of me, just as I am of you. I love you.
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY DADIDA!
From your honey pie, AUBREY

size: 1 col x 4 cm
cost: P660 vat inclusive

Happy Father's Day Papa! Thank you for everything. We love you. *Moreen & Matt*

size: 3 lines
cost: P165 vat inclusive

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER MESSAGE Board
PER OTMCA PERMIT NO. 1035 SERIES OF 2002.

OBITUARIES

FELICISIMO "ESING" C. AMON

Peacefully joined our Lord on June 6, 2002 at the age of 86.

His loving wife Lily; children Dodols & Linda, Peachy & Edward Ying, Rene; grandchildren Monalyn, John & Jade, Eddie & James Ying; great grandchildren Ica, Kennisha, Rocko.

The body lies in state at Parish of the Hearts of Jesus & Mary Daily Mirror Street, West Triangle, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Monday, June 10, 2002 at 3 p.m. at St. Michael's Ossuarium, Parish of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, West Triangle, Quezon City.

CANDIDO "BING" M. LLOREN

of Iligan City
August 29, 1940 - June 6, 2002

His wife Lynn; son Kitt; mother Goring; brothers and sisters El, Boy (†), Gils, Linda, Mila, Dolly (†) and Darmie; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Edsa, Guadalupe, Makati City.

Interment will be on June 11, 2002, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies, and whoever believes in Me will never die."

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Matthew 10:39

Our Dearly Beloved

Emilio Berroya Bergantiños, Sr.

(Former B.I.R. Examiner)
Born on January 31, 1919

Peacefully joined his Creator on June 7, 2002 at the age of 83 in San Pedro, Laguna.

His bereaved wife **Roselina**; children and in-laws **Mario & Dory Facundo, Nestor** and **Sandra Arreza, Joven, Lenie & Ernie Puzon, Emilio Jr.** and **Minnie Braganza**; brothers and sisters; grandchildren, relatives and friends, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the family residence at 12 Sto. Niño Street, San Pedro, Laguna.

Interment will be on Tuesday, June 11, 2002 at the San Pedro Memorial Park after 1:00 p.m. Mass at San Pedro Apostol Church.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2002

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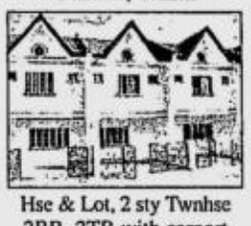

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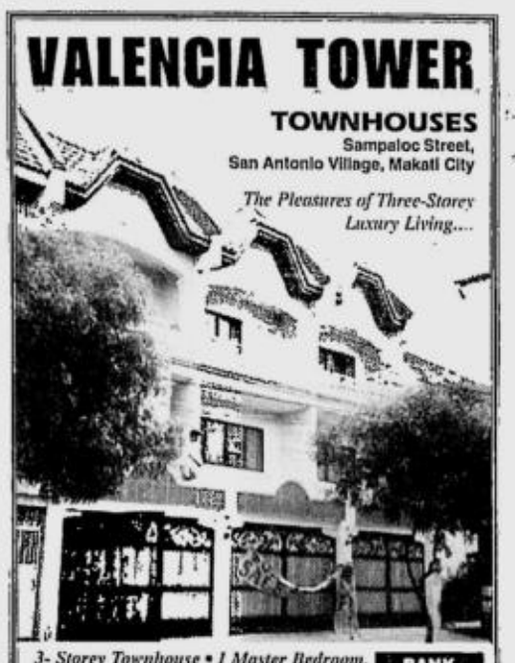

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late JOSE P. MARCENO & JUANA B. MARCENO has been settled extrajudicially among his heirs per Doc. No. 1467, Page No. 429, Book No. XXIII, Series of 2002 Before Notary Public Maria Andrelita S. Austria, Consul of Republic Of Philippines City and County of San Francisco.
(PDI-May 26, June 2 & 9 2002)

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH
Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls - Pray for me.
This prayer was found in the fiftieth year of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In 1505 it was sent from the Pope to Emperor Charles when he was going into battle. Whoever shall read this prayer or hear it or keep it about themselves, shall never die a sudden death, or be drowned, nor shall poison take effect on them; neither shall they fall into the hands of the enemy, or shall be burned in any fire or shall be overpowered in battle.
Say for nine mornings for anything you may desire. It has never been known to fail so be sure you really want what you ask.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
Holy Spirit thou who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your Perpetual Glory. Amen.

Republic of the Philippines
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Serbisyo Sibil: Isang Daang Taong Paglilingkod

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

The Civil Service Commission invites interested CONTRACTORS to apply for pre-qualification and after being pre-qualified to bid for the following projects:

PROJECT TITLE AND LOCATION	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SCOPE OF WORK	APPROVED BUDGET
ITEM 1 - Re-waterproofing of Roof deck and Upper Roof Deck (area of 1,255.72 sqm) at CSC Building Constitution Hills Diliman Quezon City (Labor and Materials)	Mobilization; Removal of existing water proofing and concrete topping; Surface preparation; Application of water proofing membrane; application of concrete topping	P1,200,000.00
ITEM 2 - Labor contract for the repair of defective ceiling and replacement of corrugated G.I. sheets in the roof, CSC main lobby, Diliman, Quezon City	Mobilization; Removal of defective ceiling; Repair of ceiling, Hauling of waste materials; Cleaning of the entire area	P150,000.00

List of pre-qualification documents may be secured from Ms. Elizabeth Cellona, ITS, 1st floor CSC Building Constitution Hills, Diliman, Quezon City with telephone number 932-0244.

The pre-qualification documents must be submitted to the BAC Chairman, Atty. Ariel G. Ronquillo, COMSEC, 2nd floor, CSC Building, Constitution Hills, Diliman, Quezon City not later than June 17, 2002 at 4:00 p.m.

Pre-qualified bidders shall be notified on June 19, 2002.

Bid documents shall be issued only to pre-qualified bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00 starting June 20, 2002 until June 24, 2002, 4:00 p.m.

A pre-bid conference shall be held on June 25, 2002, 10:00 a.m. at the Mini-Conference Room 2nd floor, CSC Building.

Sealed bids in two (2) sets shall be received by the BAC Chairman not later than 2:00 p.m. on June 28, 2002, then to be publicly opened immediately thereafter. Late bids will not be accepted.

The CSC Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any formality therein, or accept such bids or to award any part of the work to any bidders whose bid/s is/are considered responsive and most advantageous to the government. CSC-BAC further assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders of any expenses they may have incurred for joining in this bid nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) Atty. Ariel G. Ronquillo
Chairman, BAC

(PDI--June 9, 2002)

CAGAYAN II ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Aparri, Cagayan

INVITATION TO BID

A. CAGELCO II is inviting all interested parties to bid for the following described property :

Residential Lot most particularly described;
"Cadastral Lot No. 172, bounded on the north by Quirino St., South, lots 174-175-B, East – Enrile St. and West – General Luna St. with a total land area of 1,862 sq. meters"

B. Location - Enrile St., Aparri, province of Cagayan (CAGELCO II Warehouse)

C. Base Cost/Minimum Bid - P5,000.00/sq.m.

D. Application to bid must be submitted to the PBAC Chairman, Mrs. Blandina Y. Madamba at the address given above or may be faxed to Telefax No. (078) 822-8900

E. Deadline - June 26, 2002

F. Additional information may be furnished upon request or you may call telephone numbers (078) 822-8506 or (078) 888-2308.

(sgd.) GABRIEL A. TORDESILLAS
General Manager

(PDI - June 9 & 16, 2002)

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that on November 29, 2001 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon a meeting of the stockholders of NEW ASIA'S COMPUTER WORLD VENTURES, INC. will be held at its principal office in G-6 Molave Lane, 2nd Floor Virramall Shopping Center, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila to consider the proposal dissolution of the corporation, and such other matter as may legally be brought to the attention of the stockholders.

PO CHOI KONG
Corporate Secretary

(PDI--June 2, 9 & 16, 2002)

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that on April 4, 2001 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon a meeting of the stockholders of CITY GARDEN SEAFOOD RESTAURANT will be held at its principal office in St. Francis Square, J. Vargas Ave., Mandaluyong City to consider the proposal dissolution of the corporation, and such other matter as may legally be brought to the attention of the stockholders.

(PDI--June 2, 9 & 16, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

CRISTINA E. DIOCARES

Warrants of Arrest have been issued in the following cases against **CRISTINA E. DIOCARES** of Area 6, Luzon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City whose picture appears above:

1. In Criminal Case Number Q-02-016921 by the Regional Trial Court in Quezon City, Branch 220, for the crime of Qualified Theft, with bail set at P28,000.00; and

2. In Criminal Case Number Q-01-104436 by the Regional Trial Court in Quezon City, Branch 225, for the crime of Qualified Theft, with NO BAIL RECOMMENDED.

Those who know her whereabouts are enjoined to give information leading to her arrest to the appropriate law enforcement agencies or to Mr. Rommel Yamson through telephone Nos.: 721-5915 / 414-2167 or 722-2564.

(PDI--June 9, 2002)

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising HOTLINES:

HEAD OFFICE: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516
899-4425; 897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefax)
CUBAO: 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora)
MAKATI: 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370
KALAW: 528-0213; 527-3342
MEGAMALL: 635-0219; 635-0220

Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT of AGRARIAN REFORM

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR)
NO. 02 ;
Series of 2002)

SUBJECT: ***Clarificatory Guidelines for the Processing of Land Use Conversion Applications Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 1, Series of 2002 Entitled "2002 Comprehensive Rules on Land Use Conversion"***

To fully implement DAR Administrative Order No. 1, Series of 2002, the following clarificatory guidelines for the processing of land use conversion applications are hereby promulgated:

Section 1.0 Filing of Application

1.1 An applicant can secure one complete set of Land Use Conversion (LUC) Application and Certification forms together with a checklist of requirements from any of the following DAR offices:
(a) DAR Central Office - Center for Land Use Policy, Planning and Implementation (CLUPPI)
(b) DAR Regional Office - Regional CLUPPI (RCLUPPI)
(c) DAR Provincial Agrarian Reform Office

1.2 All applications filed and received after the effectivity of AO No. 1, Series of 2002, shall use the new set of application/certification forms (LUC Form No. 1 to 9) attached to this Memorandum Circular. The CLUPPI/RCLUPPI shall likewise use the new set of internal forms (LUC Form A to K also attached), for processing of applications.

1.3 Following the instructions that accompany the application, the applicant shall install the public notice billboards. The applicant shall post, in a conspicuous place(s) within the subject property, a public notice contained in a billboard made of strong weather-resistant material such as plywood, galvanized iron, tin, panaflex, or other similar durable material, measuring 1.22 meters by 2.44 meters (4 feet by 8 feet). If the landholding has an area of more than twenty (20) hectares, the applicant shall erect one (1) billboard for every twenty (20) hectares, on strategic and visible points in the landholding, preferably along a road. The billboard shall be written in the local dialect and shall display all the information mentioned below, to wit:
1. Statement that the applicant is proposing to convert the subject landholding from agricultural to non-agricultural use (specify the proposed use of the subject landholding);
2. Complete name of the landowner(s) and applicant(s) and developer(s);
3. Total area and exact location(s) of the property(ies) applied for conversion;
4. Filing date of application for conversion (the date when the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI received the application);
5. Date of posting of billboard;
6. Schedule of ocular inspection;
7. Deadline for filing protest (not later than thirty days from posting of the billboard or not later than fifteen days from conduct of ocular inspection);
8. Address of the CLUPPI and RCLUPPI and PARO where oppositors may formally file their protest;
9. Address of the approving authority; and
10. Date of approval or denial of the application (which shall be left blank, and which the applicant shall fill up upon approval or denial of the application).

1.4 After securing the application forms and posting of billboard, the applicant shall submit to the MARO two (2) folders of which the first folder contains therein the clear photocopies of the following:
1.4.1. Duly accomplished Application Form (LUC Form No. 1);
1.4.2. True copy of OCT/TCT of the subject land certified by the Register of Deeds not earlier than thirty days prior to application filing date. In case of untitled lands, Certification from the DENR Community Environment and Natural Resources (CENRO) that the landholding has been classified as alienable and disposable and Certification from the DENR-CENRO/ Clerk of Court that the titling process has commenced and that there are no adverse claimants;
1.4.3. True copy of OCT/TCT as of 15 June 1988 and all successor Titles until the present Title(s) of the subject landholding(s);
1.4.4. Directional Sketch Map;
1.4.5. MARO Certification or LUC Form No. 3 (to be filled-up by the MARO);
1.4.6. Notice of Land Use Conversion or LUC Form No. 4 (to be filled-up and posted by the MARO); and
1.4.7. A photograph of the front view of the billboard.

The second folder shall contain those specified from 1.4.1 up to 1.4.4 hereof.

1.5 The MARO shall keep the first folder for himself and transmit the second folder to the PARO within five (5) days from receipt hereof.

1.6 Within two (2) days from receipt of the folders, the MARO shall post the Notice of Land Use Conversion or LUC Form No. 4 in a conspicuous place in the Municipal Hall and in the barangay hall covering the subject land. Two (2) notices shall be posted by the MARO: one written in the English language and the other, written in the local dialect.

1.7 The MARO shall issue Certification (LUC Form No. 3) within twenty (20) days (or within ten [10] days for housing projects) from receipt of the abovementioned folder.

1.8 Upon completion of the documentary requirements, including the MARO Certification, the applicant shall submit four (4) land use conversion folders (one [1] original set and three [3] photocopy sets) containing the accomplished application form and all applicable documents to the following offices:
(a) RCLUPPI - applications involving lands with an area less than or equal to five (5) hectares, or a fraction above five (5) hectares;
(b) CLUPPI-1 - applications involving lands with an area larger than five (5) hectares.

1.9 For housing projects, Certifications from the HLURB, DA and DENR, may be submitted by the applicant at a later time.

Section 2.0 Receipt of Application

2.1 The CLUPPI/RCLUPPI shall designate a receiving officer who shall be assisted by a technical staff and perform the following functions:
(a) Receive the application (in four [4] folders, including the original set) and immediately review the same for completeness;
(b) Accomplish the pre-evaluation sheet or **LUC Form A**;
(c) Return the application to the applicant or his/its representative if incomplete/ insufficient

Section 3.0 Assessment of Filing Fee, Inspection Cost and Bond

3.1 If application is found complete and sufficient, the receiving officer shall issue an assessment for the filing fee using **LUC Form B** to the applicant.

3.2 The filing fee and inspection cost shall be as follows:

Area Applied	Filing Fee	Inspection Cost
Five (5) Hectares and Below	₱ 1,000.00	₱ 10,000.00 - if the subject landholding is within the same island as that of the Office of the Regional Director;
	- do -	₱ 15,000.00 - if the subject landholding is not within the same island as that of the Office of the Regional Director;
More than Five (5) Hectares	₱ 2,000.00	₱ 10,000.00 - if the subject landholding is within the main island of Luzon (except Bicol peninsula;
	- do -	₱ 15,000.00 - if the subject landholding is within Regions I to IV but is not located within the main island of Luzon;
	- do -	₱ 15,000.00 - if the subject landholding is in Bicol Peninsula or Visayas group of islands; or
	- do -	₱ 20,000.00 - if the subject landholding is in the Mindanao group of islands.

3.3 The receiving officer shall likewise issue an assessment for the bond to guarantee against premature conversion using **LUC Form C** to the applicant.
(a) The cash bond shall be computed at two and 5/10 percent (2.5%) of the zonal value of the land as per latest issuance of the Bureau of Internal Revenue in the form of cash or manager's/cashier check.
(b) In lieu of a cash bond, the applicant may post a surety bond issued by the GSIS equivalent to at least fifteen percent (15%) of the total zonal value of the land per latest issuance of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, indicating the following conditions at the minimum that:
b.1 the bond is callable on demand;
b.2 the DAR shall forfeit the bond in favor of the Agrarian Reform Fund when it finds the applicant carrying out any premature conversion activity; and
b.3 the validity of the bond shall be for a period of one (1) year, but renewable on a year to year basis, if necessary.
(c) Upon submission by the applicant of the map of the development plan reviewed by the HLURB, and an appropriate certification from HLURB (LUC Form No. 7) or NHA or NHMFC, the following projects shall be exempted from posting a "bond to guarantee against premature conversion."
c.1 Socialized Housing projects as certified by the HLURB;
c.2 Resettlement projects for families displaced by development of government projects as certified as such by the National Housing Authority (NHA); and
c.3 Community Mortgage Program (CMP) projects as certified as such by the National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation (NHMFC).

When the application involves a mixed use of socialized and non-socialized housing projects, the application shall not enjoy any bond exemption for socialized housing unless at least eighty (80) percent of the land applied for conversion shall be used directly and exclusively for socialized housing.

3.4 Upon issuance of the assessment for filing fee, inspection cost and bond, the applicant shall proceed to the Accounting Division of the DAR Regional/Central Office for issuance of Order of Payment. Payment shall be made to the Cashier of said office.

3.5 The cash bond shall be held in trust in accordance with accounting and auditing rules and regulations and shall be refundable upon issuance of the order of conversion, or convertible into performance bond at the applicant's option. The original copy of the GSIS surety bond shall be submitted to the Cashier Division of the DAR Central Office and the Office of the DAR Regional Director concerned for safekeeping and shall be returned to the applicant upon issuance of the order of conversion. The refund of cash bond or return of surety bond shall be subject to verification that premature development has not been undertaken. A clear photocopy of the GSIS surety bond shall remained attached to **LUC Form No. 2.**

3.6 The amount paid, number and date of the Official Receipt (OR), together with the application number, must be written on the application form (LUC Form No. 1) in all four (4) sets of the LUC folder by the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI receiving officer: *Provided,* That only applications with the required OR number shall be marked officially received and processed accordingly. Acceptance date of the folders shall be the "Filing Date" of the application.

3.7 The distribution of the four (4) folders shall be as follows: The RCLUPPI/CLUPPI shall keep a folder containing the originals and a folder containing photocopies. The original set of land use conversion folder (LUCF) must be rubberstamped "ORIGINAL" by the CLUPPI/ RCLUPPI receiving officer.

3.8 At the same time, the RCLUPPI/CLUPPI Secretariat shall transmit the remaining two (2) LUCFs to the PARO and MARO, respectively.

Immediate transmittal of said LUCF is important because the PARO shall utilize the information therein when acting upon any protest against the application, or when issuing any comment that he may wish to submit to the RCLUPPI/CLUPPI in connection with the application.

Section 4.0 Evaluation of Application

4.1 CLUPPI/RCLUPPI technical staff shall evaluate the application as to its completeness and sufficiency and prepare the briefer (**LUC Form D**) which shall serve as reference material in the conduct of field investigation.

4.2 The CLUPPI/RCLUPPI, through official communication, shall immediately inform the applicant of any issues that have to be clarified including, among others, inconsistent and/or insufficient information provided for in the documents submitted.

4.3 The evaluation/processing of the application for land use conversion shall follow the periods prescribed under DAR AO No. 1, S. 2002. However, the filing of any protest shall interrupt the running of the period for processing applications for conversion, and shall suspend the deadline for approving or disapproving the application.

4.4 Any protest or opposition filed against the conversion shall be disposed of simultaneously with the application. Whenever necessary, the approving authority may, *motu proprio* or upon motion by any oppositor, issue a Cease and Desist Order. However, if the protest or opposition requires the action of another entity such as DAR Adjudication Board or any other agency, prejudicial to the application, the latter shall be held in abeyance until the protest/ opposition is finally resolved.

Section 5.0 Field Investigation

5.1 Within ten (10) days from Filing Date, the RCLUPPI/CLUPPI shall issue to the applicant a Notice of Conduct of Ocular Inspection (**LUC Form E**), indicating the date thereof.

5.2 The applicant shall transmit said Notice to the MARO and indicate the ocular inspection date on the billboard(s) at least five (5) days before conduct of ocular inspection. On or before ocular inspection date, the applicant shall submit to the RCLUPPI/CLUPPI proof that the MARO was able to receive a copy of said Notice.

5.3 The CLUPPI/RCLUPPI shall also inform the MARO by any fastest means of communication of the date of ocular inspection with instruction to ensure dissemination of the Notice to all farmers, agricultural lessees, share tenants, farmworkers, actual tillers, or occupants in the subject landholding.

5.4 The ocular inspection shall be held not later than twenty (20) days from date of issuance of the Notice of Conduct of Ocular Inspection or not later than fifteen (15) days for priority development areas and projects, or ten (10) days for housing projects from date of issuance of the Notice of Conduct of Ocular Inspection.

5.5 The CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Chairperson shall designate the members of the ocular inspection team who shall conduct field investigation and dialogues with the farmers, agricultural lessees, share tenants, farmworkers, actual tillers, or occupants found in the subject landholdings to ascertain the information necessary for the in-depth evaluation of the application using as guide the Ocular Inspection Report (**LUC Form F**).

5.6 The CLUPPI/RCLUPPI ocular inspection team shall proceed first to the MARO before going to the site to be inspected.

5.7 The MARO shall request the tenants, farmworkers or bona fide occupants, if any, to be present at the site during the ocular inspection.

5.8 The ocular inspection team shall prepare an Ocular Inspection Report (**LUC Form F**) within five (5) days from the date of inspection.

Section 6.0 Deliberation and Resolution of Application

6.1 After completion of the inspection, the CLUPPI/ RCLUPPI shall deliberate on the merits of the application and recommend appropriate action thereon. The body deliberating on the application may call the applicant and/or the oppositors, if any, for clarificatory questioning in order to judiciously resolve the application for conversion. The RCLUPPI may invite the PARO in the deliberations. In his discretion, the PARO may submit a written comment to the RCLUPPI/ CLUPPI.

6.2 The RCLUPPI/CLUPPI shall forward its recommendation together with the records to the approving authority not later than eighty (80) days from Filing Date or not later than sixty (60) days for priority development areas/projects or not later than thirty (30) days for housing projects from Filing Date.

6.3 Except for housing projects, applications involving a total area larger than five (5) hectares and which involve area(s) which is/are highly restricted from conversion, or those, in the opinion of the Secretary, require inter-agency inputs that are crucial for its judicious disposition, shall be endorsed by the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI to the PARC Land Use Technical Committee (PLUTC) for further review/evaluation within ten (10) days from receipt thereof.

6.4 Within ten (10) days from the date of deliberation, the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI shall prepare/draft an Order of Approval or Denial.

6.5 The first page of the Conversion Order (or its denial) shall contain the following information:

1. Conversion case number;
2. OCT/TCT numbers and corresponding lot numbers and area in hectare per title. In case of untitled lands, the lot numbers and corresponding survey plan numbers;
3. Names of all registered landowners for each parcel of land;
4. Name of applicant or representative, if the applicant is not the landowner;
5. Name of the Developer;
6. Proposed use of the land;
7. Total area applied for conversion.

6.6 The dispositive portion of the Conversion Order (or its denial) shall contain the following information:

1. Name of applicant or representative, if the applicant is not the landowner;
2. OCT/TCT numbers and corresponding lot numbers and area in hectare per title. In case of untitled lands, the lot numbers and corresponding survey plan numbers;
3. Approved use of the land or proposed use in case of denial;
4. Total area approved or disapproved for conversion;
5. Grounds for approval/denial; and
6. Date of approval or denial of the Order.

6.7 Within thirty (30) days from submission of the recommendation, the approving authority shall resolve the application.

Section 7.0 Conditions of Conversion Order

The following conditions shall form part of the Order of Conversion approving the application and shall also be set forth in the dispositive portion thereof:

7.1 Within five (5) days from receipt of the Conversion Order, the landowner shall post a performance bond in accordance with Sections 26 of DAR AO No. 1, S. 2002. Failure to develop the area within the stipulated period in the Order shall result in the forfeiture of the performance bond in favor of the DAR and the cancellation of the Order.

7.2 Within thirty (30) days from receipt of the Conversion Order, the landowner shall request the Register of Deeds to annotate on the property's title the land use allowed under the Conversion Order.

7.3 Within sixty (60) days from receipt of the Conversion Order, the landowner/applicant shall submit to the CLUPPI or RCLUPPI a certified true copy of the title that already contains the annotation indicating the land use allowed under the Conversion Order.

7.4 Within sixty (60) days from receipt of the Conversion Order, the landowner, solidarily with his co-owner(s) and developer(s), shall pay disturbance compensation to the affected farmers, agricultural lessees, share tenants, farmworkers, actual tillers, or occupants, in such amounts or kinds as the parties may mutually agree upon, subject to the approval of the DAR.

7.5 Within one (1) year from receipt of the Conversion Order, the landowner and/or developer shall commence development on the property approved for conversion, and shall complete development not later than the deadline(s) set forth in its site development plan schedule, but in no case shall development extend beyond five (5) years from receipt of the Conversion Order.

7.6 The applicant shall not undertake any development until all the applicable permits and clearances from other concerned government agencies have been granted.

7.7 For housing projects, the landowner shall secure an ECC, if applicable, prior to undertaking any development therein.

7.8 The landowner and his representatives shall allow DAR officials free and unhampered access into the property approved for conversion for the purpose of monitoring compliance with the terms and conditions thereof.

7.9 The landowner and future landowner(s) of the property approved for conversion shall not change its use to another use not authorized under the Conversion Order without prior consent from the DAR. This prohibition extends to changes in housing standards, changes in selling schemes, changes from social housing to open market housing or vice-versa, and all other similar changes.

7.10 The landowner and/or developer shall submit quarterly reports on the status of development to the MARO, PARO and DAR Regional Office covering the subject property with the proper tribunal.

7.11 The grant of a Conversion Order alone shall not be a ground for eviction of any occupant in the subject properties. Any person who desires to evict occupants on the basis of the Conversion Order shall invoke other meritorious grounds and file the proper action.

7.12 The DAR reserves the right to revoke the Conversion Order upon valid grounds and after proper investigation.

Section 8.0 Release and Transmittal of Order

8.1 The Order of Approval/Denial, as well as the entire LUCF, shall be forwarded to the Records Division which shall distribute copies of the Order to the following parties and keep custody of the LUCFs:

8.1.1. The concerned landowner/applicant;
8.1.2 The concerned DAR Regional Director;
8.1.3. The concerned PARO;
8.1.4. The concerned MARO;
8.1.5. The Commissioner of the HLURB for applications approved at the DAR Central Office or the Regional Officer of the HLURB for applications approved at the DAR Regional Office;
8.1.6. The Executive Director of the CLUPPI;
8.1.7. The Registry of Deeds of the locality wherein the area applied for conversion is located, among others, shall be given a copy of the Conversion Order. (The applicant, upon filing of the application for conversion, shall give the complete address of the local Registry of Deeds to the RCLUPPI/CLUPPI Secretariat.); and
8.1.8. The Director of the DENR's Environment Management Bureau (EMB).

8.2 The Records Division of the Regional Office shall also furnish a copy of the Order, together with a copy of the LUCF, to the DAR Central Office Records Division. The respective Records Division shall retain the original copy of the LUCF for custody and safekeeping.

Section 9.0 Disposition of Bond

9.1 The cash bond shall be refundable upon issuance of the Order of Conversion or Denial or convertible into performance bond at the applicant's option in case of approval of the application. The cash bond shall be forfeited in favor of the DAR in the event actual conversion activities are conducted by the applicant prior to approval of the application.

9.2 The procedures for the refund of cash bond or its conversion to performance bond are as follows:

9.2.1 Documentary Requirements
The cash bond shall be refunded to the applicant or converted into performance bond, at the applicants's option, within five (5) days from issuance of the Order of Conversion or Denial and after submission of the following documents:

a) Letter request of applicant indicating his/her option (**LUC Form G**);
b) MARO certification on status of development of the area applied for conversion (**LUC Form H**); and,
c) Original copy of official receipt (OR) of cash bond payment or photocopy of GSIS Surety Bond. ***Provided***, that in case of loss of the original OR, a certified true copy of the OR issued by the DAR cashier and an Affidavit of Loss executed by the applicant shall be submitted. Failure of the applicant to submit the above requirements within the prescribed period shall mean automatic conversion of cash bond to performance bond. ***Provided***, that conversion of cash bond to performance bond is allowed only in cases of approved applications for conversion without premature development, or where no forfeiture order was issued by the DAR.

9.2.2 General Procedures

a) Upon receipt of the documentary requirements listed in Item 9.2.1, the Head, CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat, shall determine whether or not premature development has taken place prior to issuance of the conversion order based on CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Inspection Team report attached to the application (**LUC Form F**) and/ or MARO certification (**LUC Form H**);

b) If there is no premature development undertaken, the Head, CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat, shall prepare a Voucher refunding the cash bond to the applicant or an Authority to convert the cash bond to performance bond or return the GSIS Surety Bond (**LUC Form I**). Said Voucher or Authorization shall be signed by the CLUPPI Executive Director/Regional Director and transmitted to the Accounting Division of the Central/Regional Office.

c) If premature development has been undertaken, the cash bond/ GSIS Surety Bond shall be forfeited in accordance with Section 9.3 of this Memorandum Circular;

d) Upon receipt of the Voucher for refund of cash bond, the Accounting Division shall cause the processing of the same for refund in accordance with existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations. On the other hand, the Accounting Division shall draw a Journal Voucher to convert the cash bond to performance bond, copy furnished the applicant, the CLUPPI, and the Cashier's Office;

e) The Cashier Division of the Central Office/Regional Office shall issue the necessary payment for refund of cash bond.

9.3 The procedures for the forfeiture of cash bond and surety bond are as follows:

9.3.1 The bond shall be forfeited in favor of the DAR in the event illegal or premature conversion, as defined under existing laws and regulations, is undertaken by the applicant prior to issuance of the Order of Conversion or Denial.

9.3.2 If premature development is determined based on CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Inspection Team report (**LUC Form F**) and/or MARO certification (**LUC Form H**), the Head, CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat, shall issue a show-cause letter to the applicant requiring him/her to explain within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof, why the premature development was undertaken and why the cash bond should not be forfeited in favor of DAR.

9.3.3 Upon receipt of applicant's reply, the approving authority for the conversion application shall evaluate the merits thereof with the assistance of the CLUPPI/ RCLUPPI Secretariat. If the reasons therefore are found just and valid, the approving authority shall issue an order authorizing the refund or return of the bond or its conversion to performance bond, at the applicant's option, in accordance with Sec. 9.2 hereof. On the other hand, if the reasons are not meritorious, an Order of forfeiture of Bond shall be issued by the approving authority for conversion. Failure by the adverse party to submit a written explanation within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the show-cause letter shall result in the automatic forfeiture of the bond.

9.3.4 The Order of Forfeiture of Bond shall be signed by the designated approving official for the conversion application and shall be issued to the applicant.

9.3.5 In appropriate cases, as determined by the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Committee, as when the applicant has been given the opportunity to explain in writing the illegal or premature conversion in the course of the ocular inspection or immediately thereafter, the order forfeiting the bond may be embodied or incorporated in the Order of Conversion or Denial itself signed by the designated approving authority.

9.3.6 Upon issuance of the Certificate of Finality, the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat shall prepare and endorse to the DAR Accounting Division a Voucher forfeiting the proponent's bond in favor of the DAR, with the following supporting documents:

a) Copy of Order of Forfeiture or Order of Conversion/Denial with forfeiture provision; and

b) Copy of Certificate of Finality of said Order.

9.3.7 The bond forfeited pursuant to this Memorandum Circular shall be remitted to ARF 158 in accordance with Section 1.d of Republic Act No. 8532, subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

Section 10.0 *Posting of Performance Bond*

10.1 The applicant shall post a performance bond within five (5) days from is suance of the Order of Conversion.

10.2 General Procedures

10.2.1 The CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat shall assess or determine the amount representing the performance bond of the applicant (**LUC Form J**);

10.2.2 The performance bond shall be posted in either of the following forms:

a) Cash or manager's check/cashier's check computed at two and 5/10 percent (2.5%) of the total zonal value of the land; or

b) Surety Bond, collectible on demand, issued by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) computed at fifteen percent (15%) of the total zonal value of the land.

10.2.3 The applicant may convert the cash bond to performance bond pursuant to Sec. 9.2 of this Memorandum Circular.

10.2.4 Upon issuance of the Assessment, the applicant shall proceed to the DAR Accounting Division for issuance of the Order of Payment in case of cash or its equivalent, or in case of conversion of cash bond to performance bond, to draw the necessary Journal Voucher for the conversion of cash bond to performance bond.

10.2.5 If the performance bond is in the form of GSIS Surety Bond CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat shall evaluate its authenticity and the conditions stipulated therein.

10.2.6 The Cashier Division shall accept payment for the performance bond in cash or in manager's check. The Cashier Division of the DAR Central Office shall also accept and retain custody for safekeeping the performance bond posted in the form of GSIS Surety Bond. The Office of the Regional Director shall be responsible for safekeeping of GSIS surety bond in the DAR Regional Office.

10.2.7 In case of inability or failure of the applicant to post a performance bond within the prescribed period, the approving authority for the conversion shall issue a Revocation Order upon recommendation of the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Committee. The Revocation Order is appealable in accordance with AO No. 1, Series of 2002, and pertinent laws and regulations.

10.3 Release of Performance Bond

10.3.1 The performance bond shall be posted for and must be valid for the duration of the development of the project approved under the conversion order. It shall be released by the DAR, subject to compliance with the conditions in the Order of Conversion and upon issuance by the MARO of a Certificate of Completion of Project and/or Compliance with Conditions of Conversion Order (**LUC Form K**), as verified by the CLUPPI/ RCLUPPI ocular inspection team. ***Provided,*** that the performance bond shall not be released in case there is a protest/ complaint filed by an aggrieved party against the applicant or the surety company, until such protest or complaint is resolved or the approving authority, for good reasons, decides to allow its release.

10.3.2 The applicant shall submit a letter request, together with the following documents, to the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat for the release of performance bond:

a) Proof of final completion of the project;

b) MARO's Certificate of Completion of Project and/or Compliance with Conditions of Conversion Order (**LUC Form K**); and,

c) Original copy of OR, if performance bond is in cash/checks, or photocopy of surety bond.

10.3.3 Upon verification of the documents submitted, the head, CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat, shall prepare and initial a Voucher refunding the performance bond to the applicant, in case the same is posted in cash or checks, or an Authority to release the performance bond in case of surety bond. Said voucher or Authorization shall be signed by the CLUPPI Executive Director/Regional Director and transmitted to the Accounting Division of the Central/Regional Office;

10.3.4 In case of Surety Bond, the Head, CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat shall prepare an Authorization to release the performance bond, signed by the CLUPPI Executive Director/Regional Director.

10.5 Forfeiture of Performance Bond

10.5.1 Thirty (30) days after the lapse of the prescribed period for development of the project and upon confirmation that the applicant has failed to complete the same, or upon failure of the proponent to comply with the other conditions of the Conversion Order within the required period, the Head, CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat, shall issue a Notice of Forfeiture requiring the proponent to show cause why the performance bond should not be forfeited in favor of the government within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof.

10.5.2 Upon expiration of the above-mentioned 15-day period, and upon finding that the failure to complete the project or comply with the conditions is without just and valid cause, the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat shall prepare and present the case to the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Committee for deliberation and recommendation. Upon recommendation of the Committee the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat shall prepare an Order of Forfeiture of the performance bond, to be signed by the designated approving authority of the Conversion Order.

10.5.3 Upon issuance of the Order of Forfeiture, the Head, CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat, shall prepare and endorse to the Accounting Division a Voucher forfeiting the proponent's performance bond in favor of the DAR, together with a copy of the Order of Forfeiture.

10.5.4 In case of GSIS Surety Bond, the CLUPPI/ RCLUPPI Secretariat, upon issuance of the Order of Forfeiture, shall send a communication to the GSIS signed by the approving authority of the Conversion Order directing the GSIS to pay the DAR in view of the forfeiture of the performance bond.

Section 11.0 Accrual to Agrarian Reform Fund

All interest earnings on bonds, if any, and all forfeited bonds shall accrue to the Agrarian Reform Fund (Fund 158) pursuant to Republic Act No. 8532.

Section 12.0 Repealing Clause

All Orders, circulars, issuances or portions thereof which are inconsistent with this Memorandum Circular are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 13.0 Effectivity

This Memorandum Circular takes effect immediately.

Diliman, Quezon City, May 21, 2002.

HERNANI A. BRAGANZA
Secretary

f.p.

LUC Checklist
Series of 2002

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM

DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR LAND USE CONVERSION

A. **Standard Requirements:** Six (6) sets of land use conversion folder (LUCF) consisting of the f+ollowing: (One [1] original set and five [5] photocopy sets) with table of contents and page numbers of all documents including photographs, sequentially numbered, except for maps and development plans which shall likewise be in sextuplicate but shall be submitted in six separate envelopes with contents properly labeled on each envelope. Of the six (6) folders, two (2) will be transmitted to the Municipal Agrarian Reform Officer (MARO), containing therein only the filled-up application form and the documents specified in Nos. 4, 5, 14 and 26 hereunder. The remaining four (4) folders shall contain all the documents enumerated hereunder that are applicable. The arrangement thereof shall follow the sequence of the enumeration below, with the requirement referred to in No. 1 hereof being the first document after the table of contents:

1. Official receipt showing proof of payment of filing fee and inspection cost.
2. Official receipt showing proof of posting of bond or an original copy of the GSIS surety bond in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in Section 24 of DAR AO No. 1, Series of 2002.
3. Sworn Application for Land Use Conversion. (Form No. 1)
4. True copy of the Original Certificate of Title (OCT) or Transfer Certificate of Title (TCT) of the subject land, certified by the Register of Deeds not earlier than thirty (30) days prior to application filing date.
   In case of untitled land, the following shall be required in lieu of a title:
   - 4.1. Certification from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer ((DENR-CENRO) that the landholding has been classified as alienable and disposable; and
   - 4.2. Certification from the DENR-CENRO (for administrative confirmation of imperfect title) or the Clerk of Court (for judicial confirmation of imperfect title) that the titling process/ proceedings has commenced and there are no adverse claimants.
5. True copy of the Certificate of Title of the subject land as of 15 June 1988, and all successor Titles until the present Title referred to in No. 4 hereof, if applicable.
6. True copy of the current Tax Declaration covering the subject property.
7. Project feasibility study.
8. Joint venture agreement or any other business arrangement on the use of the land between the landowner and the developer (if the developer is other than the landowner) or between the Emancipation Patent/Certificate of Land Ownership Award (EP/ CLOA) holders and the developer (if the land was awarded under the agrarian reform program).
9. Narrative description of the development plan describing in detail the activities, program components, phasing, schedule, work and financial plan, all duly certified by a licensed engineer, architect, or land use planner.
10. Proof of financial and organizational capability of the developer to develop land, including the following information:
    - 10.1. Statement of project cost and availability of potential funding source(s) for the development of the proposed project;
    - 10.2. Profile of the developer;
    - 10.3. Most recent financial statement, not later than the year before application, duly authenticated by a certified public accountant; and
    - 10.4. If the developer is a corporation or partnership, a copy of its Certificate of Registration and recent General Information Sheet (GIS) for the immediately preceding year, certified by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), or in lieu of the latter, a duly accomplished GIS sworn to before a notary public, provided, that if the land is to be used for socialized housing by the LGU under EO 124-1993, a Sanggunian Resolution appropriating funds for the project and authorizing the LGU to undertake the same shall be required: Provided, further, that if the socialized housing shall be undertaken by other government agencies such as the National Housing Authority and the like, a board resolution approving the project and appropriating funds therefor shall likewise be submitted.
11. Socio-Economic Benefit-Cost Study of the proposed project.
12. Photographs, size 5R (five [5] inches by seven [7] inches), using color film, and taken on the landholding under sunlight. The applicant shall attach the pictures to a paper background and the photographer who took said pictures shall sign on said paper background to certify the authenticity of the pictures. On each background paper shall be written a short description of each picture. The pictures shall consist of:
    - 12.1. At least four (4) photographs taken from the center of the landholding: one (1) facing north, one (1) facing east, one (1) facing south, and one (1) facing west;
    - 12.2. At least one (1) photograph per corner, taken from each corner of the landholding's borders.
    - 12.3. At least two (2) photographs each for all distinct man-made structures existing on the land, taken from opposite angles;
    - 12.4. At least two (2) photographs each of the front view of the billboard(s) required in Section 11 of DAR A.O. No. 1 Series of 2002. The applicant shall set aside the second copy of said billboard photograph(s) for submission to the Municipal Agrarian Reform Officer (MARO); and
    - 12.5. Sufficient number of photographs of the most conspicuous landmarks from the nearest barangay center and leading to and from the ingress and egress routes at the subject landholding, for the purpose of assisting the ocular inspection team in locating the site.
13. Affidavit/Undertaking in a single document of the applicant. (LUC Form No. 2)
14. MARO Certification (LUC Form No. 3) and Notice of Land Use Conversion in English language (LUC Form No. 4) and in local dialect (LUC Form No. 4A).
15. Certification from the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) Regional Officer on the actual zoning or classification of the land subject of the application based on the approved comprehensive land use plan citing: (a) the municipal or city zoning ordinance number; and (b) resolution number and date of approval by the HLURB or the Sangguniang Panlalawigan concerned, as the case may be. (LUC Form No. 5)
16. Certification from the authorized Department of Agriculture (DA) official stating, among others, the classification of the property under the NPAAAD and SAFDZ, whether or not the subject property is within the five percent (5%) limit of the SAFDZ allowed for conversion, the status of irrigation coverage of the subject property, and whether the land has ceased to be economically feasible and sound for agricultural purposes.
17. Certification from the authorized DENR official stating, among others, whether or not the subject land is within the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS), mossy and virgin forests, riverbanks, or swamp forests and marshlands; within an Environmentally Critical Area (ECA), or will involve the establishment of an Environmentally Critical Project (ECP). (LUC Form No. 6).
18. Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) when the subject land is within an ECA or will involve the establishment of an ECP.
19. If applicable, Special Power of Attorney (SPA), when the applicant is not the registered owner.
20. If applicable, notarized secretary's certificate of a corporate/cooperative board resolution authorizing the representative, when the applicant is a corporation or cooperative.
21. If applicable, concurrence letter of the mortgagee or of the individual or entity in whose favor the encumbrance was constituted, when the property is encumbered.
22. If applicable, endorsement from the concerned government agency, when the application involves a priority development area or project, such as:
    - a) NEDA-NLUC endorsement if under EO 124-1993; or
    - b) HLURB endorsement if socialized housing (LUC Form No. 7); or
    - c) PEZA Board Resolution approving the project for ecozone project
23. If applicable, Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) Certification attesting that the applicant-landowner has fully paid his obligations to the LBP, when the applicant-landowner is a beneficiary of the agrarian reform program. (LUC Form No. 8)
24. If applicable, Provincial Agrarian Reform Officer (PARO) Certification attesting that the applicant-landowner acquired the subject land from a landed-estate or under the Voluntary Land Transfer / Direct Payment Scheme (VLT/DPS) and he has already fully paid his obligation thereunder, when the applicant-landowner is a beneficiary of the agrarian reform program. (LUC Form No. 9)
25. Vicinity map and a lot plan prepared by a duly-licensed geodetic engineer indicating the lots being applied for and their technical descriptions, name of owner/s, lot number and area. The map shall highlight the specific area applied for conversion if the application covers less than the total lot area.
26. Directional sketch map showing the orientation of the subject property in relation to adjoining lands and nearest provincial and/or national and/or feeder roads, to facilitate and determine the location of the property for the purpose of ocular inspection. The map shall: indicate the existing infrastructure and/or improvements thereon including any house or tillage thereupon of any occupant therein; landmarks within a one (1) kilometer radius; and owners of adjacent properties. The map need not be drawn to scale.
27. Map of the development plan. For socialized housing projects, the applicant shall submit map of the development plan with marked "reviewed by the HLURB."
28. Topographic Map if the subject property is within an upland, hilly or mountainous area.

Note: The applicant shall submit all the foregoing applicable requirements from Nos. 1 to 28 hereof at the time of filing of the application to the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI. However, for applications involving housing projects under EO-45-2001, requirements mentioned in Nos. 15 to 18 maybe submitted at a later time.

LUC FORM NO. 1
SERIES OF 2002

APPLICATION No._____

RECEIVED
Date: ____ _____ 2002
Time: _____
Number of Pages: _____
Received By: _____

For the CLUPPI/RCLUPPI to fill up.

FILING FEE/INSPECTION COST OFFICIAL RECEIPT	CASH BOND OFFICIAL RECEIPT:
Amount: _____ Pesos Date: _____ 2002 Number: _____	Amount: _____ Pesos Date _____ 2002 Number: _____ For surety bond in lieu of cash bond, please attach the necessary documents from the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Surety bonds that are not from the GSIS are not acceptable.

SWORN APPLICATION
FOR
LAND USE CONVERSION

THE HONORABLE SECRETARY
Department of Agrarian Reform
Diliman, Quezon City

Sir:

Pursuant to DAR Administrative Order No. 1, Series of 2002 (2002 Comprehensive Guidelines on Land Use Conversion), I hereby apply for land use conversion from agricultural to _____ use and submit the following information relative to the property/ies subject of this application:

I. APPLICANT'S PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

A. INDIVIDUAL LANDOWNER
(IF THE APPLICANT IS THE LANDOWNER)

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Mobile No : _____ E-mail: _____

B. CORPORATION/PARTNERSHIP/GOVERNMENT ENTITY

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Mobile No.: _____ E-mail: _____

PRESIDENT or HEAD of Corporation or Government entity:

Name: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

C. CO-OWNERSHIP:
Number of co-owners: _____
Name and addresses of co-owners: (List down all the names of co-owners)

Co-owner Name: _____
Address: _____
Co-owner Name: _____
Address: _____
Co-owner Name: _____
Address: _____

(Use separate sheet if necessary and attach as an annex to this LUC Form)

D. REPRESENTATIVE (IF APPLICANT IS NOT THE LANDOWNER):

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Mobile phone: _____ E-mail: _____

SOURCE OF AUTHORITY:

[ ] Special Power of Attorney [ ] Board Resolution

_____ 2
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

II. LAND DEVELOPER

Please fill up regardless of whether or not the developer is the applicant. If the developer is not the landowner/applicant, please attach contract or Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the landowner/s and the developer for the development of the property.

Name of the developer: _____
President/Head: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____
License/Registration Number: _____
Issuance Date: _____ Expiration Date: _____

III. LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING/S

Barangay/s: _____

Municipality/City: _____

Province: _____

IV. DESCRIPTION OF LANDHOLDING/S

Main Access Road: _____

Other Access Road: _____

A. LAND TITLE AND AREA AS OF 15 JUNE 1988
(USE SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY AND ATTACH AS AN ANNEX TO THIS LUC FORM)

Registered Owner/s	Lot Survey Number	Original Certificate of Title or Transfer Certificate of Title or Tax Declaration (OCT /TCT/ TD Number) As of 15 June 1988	Area Hectares Per Title (Per Hectare)	Location (Barangay Municipality/ City Province)	Date of Registration

_____ 3
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

B.SUCCESSOR TITLES
IF PRESENT TITLE/S IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT COVERING THE PROPERTY/IES ON 15 JUNE 1988
(Use separate sheet if necessary and attach as an Annex to this LUC Form)

Registered Owner/s (List all names of owner/co-owners)	Lot Survey Number	OCT/TCT/TD Number (In Hectares)	Area Per Title In Hectares	Area Applied For Conversion (In Hectares)	Date of Registration

_____ 4
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

C. PRESENT LAND TITLE AND AREA(S) APPLIED FOR CONVERSION
USE SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY AND ATTACH AS ANNEX TO THIS LUC FORM)

Registered Owner/s (List all names of owner/co-owner)	Lot Survey Number	OCT/TCT/TD Number	Area Hectares Per Title (In Hectares)	Area Applied For Conversion (In Hectares)	Date of Registration
		TOTAL			

5
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

D. TABLE OF TITLE(S) AS OF 15 JUNE 1988 AND SUCCESSOR TITLE(S):
(USE SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY AND ATTACH AS AN ANNEX TO THIS LUC FORM)

15 June 1988 Title	Successor Title(s)	Successor Title(s)	Present Title(s)

V. LAND COVER AND USE OF APPLIED AREA
(USE SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY AND ATTACH AS AN ANNEX TO THIS LUC FORM)

A. DOMINANT LAND USE

Title/TD and Lot No.	Land Cover (Crop, grass, structure, etc.)	Land Use (agricultural, residential, commercial, etc.)	Area (In Hectares)	Remarks (If planted with crops, specify type of crops, productivity level, and other information)
		TOTAL		

6
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

B. OTHER LAND USES

Title/TD and Lot No.	Land Cover (crop, grass, structure, etc.)	Land Use (agricultural,residential, commercial, etc.)	Area (In Hectares)	Remarks (if planted with crops, specify type of crops, productivity level, and other information)

Total: _____

C.SUROUNDING LAND COVER AND USE

	Land Cover (crop, grass, structure, etc.)	Land Use (agricultural, residential, commercial, etc.)	Area (In Hectares)	Remarks (If planted with crops, specify type of crops, productivity level, and other information)
NORTH				
North East				
EAST				
South East				
SOUTH				
SouthWest				
WEST				
NorthWest				
		TOTAL		

7
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

VI. TOPOGRAPHY:

TOPOGRAPHY:	HECTARES:	PEAK ELEVATION:
[ ] Flat	_____	[ ] Not above 500 meters
[ ] Upland	_____	[ ] Above 500 meters
[ ] Hilly	_____	
[ ] Mountainous	_____	
[ ] Plateau	_____	
[ ] Valley	_____	

VII. ACCESSIBILITY
(APPROXIMATE DISTANCE FROM THE FOLLOWING LANDMARKS IN KILOMETERS):

Barangay Road	_____	Barangay Center	_____
Municipal Road	_____	Municipal Hall	_____
Provincial Road	_____	Provincial Capitol	_____
National Highway	_____		
Public Market	_____		
School	_____		
Other Landmarks	_____	Specify: _____	

Remarks (specify type of road, means of access, others): _____

VIII. ZONAL VALUE
(PER LATEST ISSUANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE)

ZONAL VALUE per square meter: (P/sq.m.) _____
Area Applied (In Hectares) : _____ (Total Zonal Value P)_____

IX. CARP COVERAGE

[ ] With Notice of Acquisition / Valuation

[ ] With perfected Voluntary Land Transfer / Direct Payment Scheme

[ ] With approved Stock Distribution Option

[ ] Within landed estate / resettlement

[ ] Not covered by any of the above Specify: _____

8
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

X. TENURIAL STATUS

[ ] with agricultural lessee(s) number: _____
[ ] with share tenant(s) number: _____
[ ] with regular farmworker(s) number: _____
[ ] with seasonal farmworker(s) number: _____
[ ] with other farmworker(s) number: _____
[ ] with actual tiller(s) number: _____
[ ] with occupant(s) number: _____
[ ] with _____ number: _____
[ ] none

XI. INDIVIDUAL AREAS OCCUPIED BY ABOVE PERSONS,IF APPLICABLE
(USE SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY AND ATTACH AS AN ANNEX TO THIS LUC FORM)

NAME	AREA CULTIVATED/OCCUPIED (In Hectare)	CROPS PLANTED STRUCTURES BUILT

XII. TITLE(S) WITH ANNOTATION OF ENCUMBRANCE(S):
(USE SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY AND ATTACH AS AN ANNEX TO THIS LUC FORM)

[ ] YES [ ] NONE

If yes, specify type of encumbrance _____
(NOTE: Attach letter of concurrence of the mortgagee, or/of the individual/entity in whose favor the encumbrance(s) was constituted, to the proposed conversion of the property)

If covered with several land titles, specify OCT/TCT Nos. and corresponding encumbrance(s)

9
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

XIII. BILLBOARD

Number of Billboards Erected:_____ Billboard Width (in meters): _____
(One [1] billboard for every [20] hectares)

Date Erected: _____ Billboard Length (in meters): _____

Materials used for billboard: _____

Exact Location(s) of Billboard(s):

Billboard 1_____

Billboard 2_____

Billboard 3_____

MESSAGE WRITTEN ON BILLBOARD (FILL-UP APPROPRIATE BOX ONLY)
DIALECT: _____

REQUIRED INFORMATION	MESSAGE ACTUALLY APPEARING IN BILLBOARD
Statement in the local dialect that the applicant is proposing to convert the subject landholding from agricultural to non-agricultural(specify)use.	
Complete name of the landowner(s) and applicant(s) and developer(s):	
Total area and exact location of the conversion proposal:	
Filing date of application for conversion:	
Date billboard(s) was created:	
Schedule of ocular inspection:	
Deadline for filing protest:	
Address of the CLUPPI and RCLUPPI and PARO where oppositors may formally file their protest:	CLUPPI:
	RCLUPPI:
	PARO:
Address of the DAR approving authority:	
Date of approval or denial of the application: Conversion Order No.	

10
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

ATTACH CLEAR COLOR PHOTOGRAPH OF ENTIRE BILLBOARD (size 5 inches by 7 inches)
(All The Contents Of The Entire Billboard Must Be Legible In The Photograph)

LANDOWNER/APPLICANT
TIN: _____
Community Tax Certificate
Number: _____
Place: _____
Date: _____

Witness Witness

11
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Republic of the Philippines)
) s.s.

BEFORE ME this _____ 2002 in _____ personally appeared the above, known to me and to me known as the person(s) who executed this SWORN APPLICATION FOR LAND USE CONVERSION after exhibiting to me his/her/their respective Tax Identification Number (TIN) and Community Tax Certificate, and he/she/they acknowledged the voluntary execution of this sworn application and full comprehension of its legal consequences.

Document ____
Page ____
Book ____
Series of 2002

Notary Public

12
Write a check mark in the appropriate bracket "[ ]"or fill in the blanks with the correct information. Any false statement or deliberate inaccuracy shall be a ground for outright denial of the application and criminal prosecution for perjury. Any portion left blank is equivalent to a sworn statement by the applicant that the information requested by the blank line is "N/A" or "Not Applicable", which, if found to be otherwise, shall be subject to the rule on willful suppression of evidence.

LUC FORM NO. 2
SERIES OF 2002

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
MUNICIPALITY OF _____]
PROVINCE OF _____]s.s.

AFFIDAVIT OF UNDERTAKING

I, _____, of legal age, citizen of the _____, single or married to _____, and with residence address at _____having been duly sworn in accordance with law, hereby depose and say that:

1. I am the owner/(authorized representative of the owner[s]) of the ____(number) parcel(s) of land subject of an application for conversion.

2. The land subject of my application for conversion has no vertical nor horizontal development of any kind that is related to any non-agricultural use.

3. As a sign of good faith, I posted a bond to guarantee the present status of the land and my/our obligation not to conduct and not to allow any development of any nature by any person, whether or not acting on my/our behalf, over the entire property subject of the conversion application, until such time that the DAR has issued a Conversion Order authorizing development of the project applied for. The bond I posted is (please write a check mark in the appropriate box) :*

[ ] **Cash Bond**

Amount: _____ Pesos
I hereby state under oath that the above amount is equivalent to two point five percent (2.5%) of the zonal value of the land applied for conversion per latest valuation by the Department of Finance.

Official Receipt date: _____
Official Receipt number: _____
Official Receipt issued by:
[ ] DAR Central Office
[ ] DAR Regional Office of _____
(state region number)

* Not applicable to application exempt from posting of bond to guarantee against premature conversion as specified in Sec. 24.5 of DAR AO No. 1, S. 2002.

[ ] **Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Surety Bond, the original and a clear photocopy of which are attached to this Affidavit.**

Amount: _____ Pesos
I hereby state under oath that the above amount is equivalent to fifteen percent (15%) of the zonal value of the land applied for conversion per latest valuation by the Department of Finance.

Surety Bond Date: _____
Surety Bond Number: _____

4. The total number of farmers, agricultural lessees, share tenants, farmworkers, actual tillers, occupants, or others directly working on the land is (please write a check mark in the appropriate box):

[ ] None
[ ] _____ persons. Their names are (use separate sheet when necessary):

5. I/we paid (or undertake to pay) disturbance compensation to the following persons at the following amounts and schedule of payments (use separate sheet when necessary):

NAME	Amount	Payment Date

6. I/we erected _____(number) of billboard(s) and undertake not to remove, deface, nor destroy said billboard(s), and that I/we shall repair or replace the same when damaged, until after the approving authority disposes of the application with finality.

7. I/we have not commenced any action or filed any claim involving the land subject of my/our application for conversion in any court, tribunal or quasi-judicial agency. To the best of my/our knowledge, no such other action or claim is pending therein. I/we have no knowledge of any controversy or proceeding involving the said parcel of land(s) or the rights of person over its possession and entitlement to its fruits or rights thereto as beneficiary, the determination of which is filed before any tribunal, court, the DAR or any other agency. To my/our own knowledge, no such action or proceeding is pending in any court, tribunal, or quasi-judicial agency. Should there be any same or similar action or proceeding involving the property applied for conversion, which is either pending or may have been terminated, I/we shall report such fact within five (5) days from knowledge thereof to the approving authority where my/our aforesaid application has been filed.

8. With this instrument, I/we authorize the DAR to forfeit the bond in paragraph "3" of this affidavit the moment the DAR finds, upon proper notice, that there is development within the area, undertaken either before or after the filing of the present conversion application, that is related to any non-agricultural use before the issuance of a conversion order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we hereunto affix our signatures on the date and in the place indicated below.

LANDOWNER/APPLICANT
TIN: _____
Community Tax Certificate
Number: _____
Place: _____
Date: _____

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, this day of _____ in _____, affiant exhibiting to me his/her Community Tax Certificate No. issued on _____,200___ at _____.

Document ____
Page ____
Book ____
Series of ____

Notary Public

LUC FORM NO. 3
SERIES OF 2002

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
MUNICIPAL AGRARIAN REFORM OFFICE
Municipality of: ________________

CERTIFICATION FOR LAND USE CONVERSION APPLICATION

I. BRIEFER

Name of Landowner/s: ________________

Representative: ________________

Address: ________________

Telephone: ________________

Developer: ________________

Address: ________________

Location of Property:

Street(s)/Sitio/Purok: ________________

Barangay: ________________

Municipality / City: ________________

Province: ________________

Total Area Applied for Conversion (in Hectares):

Number of Parcels: ________________

Proposed Use: ________________

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY
(Use separate sheet if necessary and attach as annex to this LUC Form)

Registered Owner/s	OCT/TCT/TD No.	Lot No.	Area per Title (In Hectares)	Area Applied (In Hectares)	Location/ Barangay
Total					

III. STATUS OF COVERAGE UNDER RA 6657 AND/OR PD 27

A. STATUS OF AREA APPLIED FOR CONVERSION

OCT/TCT/TD NO.	LOT NO.	STATUS UNDER CARP (state it w/ NOC, MOV, NLVA or under VLT/DPS, or within LE, RA or NA)*	DATE ISSUED/ EXECUTED (i.e., NOC, MOV, NLVA, etc.)	NO. OF TENANT, FARMWORKERS/ OCCUPANTS

(Attached complete report on the status of each parcel of land applied for conversion under CARP/PD 27, if necessary)

*NOC - Notice of Coverage
MOV - Memorandum of Valuation by LBP to DAR
NLVA - Notice of Land Valuation and Acquisition issued by DAR to landowner
VLT/DPS - Voluntary land Transfer/Direct Payment Scheme
OLT - Operation Land Transfer
LE - Landed Estate
RA - Retained Area
NA - None of the Above

B. STATUS OF SURROUNDING AREAS
(Attach status report of areas surrounding the land applied for conversion in terms of CARP coverage)

C. INDIVIDUALS IN THE AREA APPLIED FOR CONVERSION
(Use separate sheet if necessary and attach as annex to this LUC Form)

NAME (tenant/farmworkers/ occupants)	AREA CULTIVATED/OCCUPIED (In Hectares)	CROPS PLANTED

IV. POSTING OF BILLBOARD

A. A billboard(s) has been posted in a strategic and conspicuous place(s) along the boundary of the property(ies) applied for conversion with the following specifications:

1. Material/s used ________
2. Billboard length (in meters) ________
3. Billboard width (in meters) ________
4. Number of Billboards erected ________
5. Exact Location of Billboard(s):

Billboard 1________________

Billboard 2________________

Billboard 3________________

B. COLOR PHOTOGRAPH OF BILLBOARD (size 5 inches by 7 inches)
(All the contents of the entire Billboard must be legible in the PHOTOGRAPH)

V. POSTING OF NOTICE OF LAND USE CONVERSION APPLICATION

Notice of Land Use Conversion Application of the property has been posted in a conspicuous place at the:

Barangay Hall of Barangay: ________________
Date: ________________
Until: ________________

Municipal / City Hall of ________________
Date: ________________
Until: ________________

I, Municipal Agrarian Reform Officer of ________________, hereby attest that all the foregoing information written or appearing in this CERTIFICATION, consisting of ________ ( ) pages including this page and the attachment(s), is true and accurate to the best of my own personal knowledge.

____
MUNICIPAL AGRARIAN REFORM OFFICER

Date of receipt of request for this certification: ________
Date of issuance of this Certification: ________

lucform b

LUC FORM NO. 4
Series of 2002
(To be filled up by the MARO)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
MUNICIPAL AGRARIAN REFORM OFFICE
Municipality of : ____________

NOTICE OF LAND USE CONVERSION APPLICATION

NOTICE is hereby given that ________________ has filed with DAR an Application for Land Use Conversion over ______ parcel/s of land situated in Barangay ____________, Municipality of ____________, Province of ____________ covering an area of ____________ hectares, specifically identified as follows:

Registered Owner	Lot No.	OCT/TCT/ TD No.	Area Per Title (Has.)	Area Applied for Conversion (Has.)

(Use separate sheet if necessary and attach as annex to this LUC Form)

The above parcel/s are sought to be converted from agricultural to ____________ use.

Any person with valid objection to the said application for land use conversion may file his/her objection/protest thereto, in writing, addressed to the PARO and/or Executive Director CLUPPI or RCLUPPI Chairperson not later than thirty (30) days from posting of the billboard/s or not later than fifteen (15) days from conduct of ocular inspection, whichever is later.

Prepared and Posted by : ________________
MARO

Date Prepared: ________________ Date Posted: ________________

NOTE: Accomplished copy of this Notice is to be issued to the applicant together with the LUC Form No. 3, while duplicate copies shall be posted in the conspicuous place at the Barangay Hall and Municipal Hall of the locality where the land sought to be converted is located.

HLURB Certification No. ________

LUC FORM NO. 5
Series of 2002
(To be filled-up by the Regional HLURB)

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD
Office of the Regional Officer
Region ____________

CERTIFICATION

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. No. of Parcels : ________________

B. Location of Property: ________________

C. Total Area (ha) ________________

D. Proposed Use: ________________

E. Description of Landholdings

Registered Owner	Lot No.	OCT/TCT/TD No.	Area Per Title (Ha)	Area Applied for Conversion (Ha)	Zoning Classification
TOTAL					

(Use separate sheet if necessary and attach as annex to this LUC Form)

II. STATUS OF COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN (CLUP)/ZONING ORDINANCE (ZO)

1. [ ] **WITH APPROVED CLUP/ZO**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above described landholdings is/are zoned for uses/s specified in the above table per approved Comprehensive Land Use Plan/Zoning Ordinance of the city/municipality of ____________, dated ____________ ratified by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB)/Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) through Board/SP Resolution No. ________ dated ____________ in accordance with pertinent issuances;

Further, the proposed conversion:

[ ] Conforms/is compatible with the approved land use plan and/or Zoning Ordinance
[ ] Does not conform/is not compatible with the approved land use plan and/or Zoning Ordinance

Per record of this Office, the city/municipality of________________ has a total zoned agricultural land of________________ hectares of which ____________hectares have been reclassified since ____________, as approved by the HLURB/SP per HLURB/SP Resolution No. ____________ dated ____________

2. [ ] **WITH CLUP/ZO PENDING APPROVAL BY HLURB/SP**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above described property/ies is/are located within the area zoned for ____________ use per Comprehensive Land Use Plan/Zoning Ordinance No. _____ dated ____________ submitted to HLURB/SP for approval on ____________ and same remains pending to date.

This is to certify further that: per record of this office said city/municipality of ____________ will have a total zoned agricultural land of ________ hectares.

3. [ ] **WITHOUT CLUP/ZO**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the municipality/city of ____________ has not submitted its Comprehensive Land Use Plan/ Zoning Ordinance to this Office.

This Certification is issued upon the request of Mr./Mrs./Ms. ________________ in relation to his/her application for land use conversion.

Given this _____ day of ____________, ________.

____
Regional Officer

NOTE: 1. This certification is issued relative to the requirement of DAR regarding the implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law and shall not be construed as a Certificate of Eligibility for Conversion;
2. This certification shall not be construed as a Locational Clearance/ Certificate of Zoning Conformance/Development Permit or License to Sell; and
3. This shall not be construed as a certification as to the ownership by the applicant of the above listed parcel(s) of land.

lucform b

LUC FORM NO. 6 **DENR Certification No. ______**
Series of 2002
(To be filled-up by the DENR)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Office of the Regional Executive Director
Region ________________

CERTIFICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the ________ parcel(s) of land situated in Barangay(s) ________________ Municipality of ________________ Province of ________________, covering an area of ________ hectares, specifically identified as follows:

Registered Owner	Lot No.	OCT/TCT/TD No.	Area Per Title (Ha.)	Area Applied for Conversion (Ha.)
TOTAL				

(Please use separate sheet if necessary and attach as annex to this LUC Form)

Is/are classified as: (Please check)

1. [ ] Within protected areas under the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS)
2. [ ] Within environmentally critical area (ECA); specify: ________________
3. [ ] Within mossy and virgin forests
4. [ ] Within riverbanks
5. [ ] Within swamp forests and marshlands
6. [ ] None of the above

Further, the proposed project to be undertaken in the area applied for conversion is:

1. [ ] Environmentally critical project (ECP); specify: ________________
2. [ ] Not environmentally critical project (ECP)

(NOTE: If the subject property falls within ECA or the proposed project is an ECP, an ECC shall be secured and attached to this certification as additional documentary requirement.

This Certification is issued upon the request of Mr./Mrs./Ms. ________________ relative to his/her application for land use conversion.

Given this _____ day of ____________, ________.

____
Regional Executive Director

Note:

1. This Certification shall not be considered as development permit.
2. This Certification shall not be construed as an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC).

lucform b

LUC FORM NO. 7 **HLURB Certification No. ______**
Series of 2002
(To be filled-up by the HLURB)

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD
Office of the Regional Officer
Region ____________

CERTIFICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the ________ parcel(s) of land situated in Barangay(s) ________________ Municipality of ________________ Province of ________________, covering an area of ________ hectares, specifically identified as follows:

Registered Owner	Lot No.	OCT/TCT/TD No.	Area Per Title (Ha.)	Area Applied for Conversion (Ha.)
TOTAL				

(Please use separate sheet if necessary and attach as annex to this LUC Form)

Is/are proposed for low-cost /socialized housing project and conforms with the minimum design standards of Batas Pambansa (BP) 220. The project, however shall be subject to pertinent issuances (Clearances, Development Permit, Certificate of Registration and Licensed to Sell) from Government Agencies concerned.

This Certification is issued upon the request of Mr./Mrs./Ms. ________________ relative to his/her application for land use conversion.

Given this _____ day of ____________, ________.

____
Regional Officer

LUC FORM NO. 8 LBP Certification No. ________
Series of 2002
(To be filled-up by the LBP Branch/Field Manager)

Republic of the Philippines
LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
Office of the Branch/Field Manager
Branch/Field Office________

CERTIFICATE OF FULL PAYMENT OF ARB's OBLIGATIONS

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the _______ parcel(s) of land situated in Barangay(s) ____________ Municipality of ____________ Province of ____________, covering an area of ________ hectares, specifically identified as follows:

Name of Beneficiary	OCT/TCT/ TD No.	Area Per Title (Ha)	Area Applied for Conversion (Ha)
TOTAL			

(Please attach additional sheet if necessary)

FURTHER, it is certified that the subject landholding/petition was found to be awarded to the following farmer-beneficiaries, namely:

FURTHERMORE, the abovementioned farmer-beneficiaries of the agrarian reform program have [ ] fully paid [ ] not fully paid their obligations.

This Certification is issued upon the request of Mr./Mrs./Ms. ____________ in relation to his/her application for land use conversion..
Given this _______ day of ____________, ________.

Branch/Field Manager

NOTE:

1. This Certification shall be required when the applicant/landowner is a beneficiary of agrarian reform program; and

LUC FORM NO. 9 DARPO Certification No. ________
Series of 2002
(To be filled-up by the PARO)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Provincial Agrarian Reform Office
Province: ____________

CERTIFICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the _______ parcel(s) of land situated in Barangay(s) ____________ Municipality of ____________ Province of ____________, covering an area of ________ hectares, is/are found to be covered and distributed under the Agrarian Reform Program specifically described as follows:

Name of Beneficiary	OCT/TCT/TD No.	Area Per Title (Ha.)	Area Applied for Conversion (Ha.)	Date of Award	Status of Payment	Remarks
TOTAL						

(Please use additional sheet if necessary and attach as annex to this LUC Form)

In summary, the total number of FBs involved are ____________ of which ________ (no.) of FBs have fully paid their obligation and ____________ (no. of FBs) are authorized to have his/their lands/s converted because at least five (5) years have already lapsed since its/their award to said farmer beneficiaries (FBs).

This Certification is issued upon the request of Mr./Ms./Mrs. ____________ in relation to his/her application for land use conversion.

Given this ______ day of ____________, ________.

Provincial Agrarian Reform Officer

(Please state in the remarks if under LBP financing and other comments, if any. If under LBP financing, LBP Certification of Full Payment [LUC No. 7] shall be secured and attached to the LUCF as additional requirement.)

NOTE:

1. This Certification shall be required when the applicant/landowner is a beneficiary of agrarian reform program; and

LUC FORM A
Series of 2002

(To be filled-up by Receiving Officer of CLUPPI/RCLUPPI)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Center for Land Use Policy, Planning and Implementation (CLUPPI)
Office (Central/RCLUPPI):____________

PRE-EVALUATION FOR APPLICATION FOR LAND USE CONVERSION OF ALL PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LANDS

A. PETITIONER

1. Name of Applicant : ____________
(Signatory in the Sworn Application for Conversion)

If the applicant is not the landowner, specify basis of authority to represent the landowner:
[ ] Special Power of Attorney [ ] Board Resolution

2. Postal Address: ____________

3. Proposed Use of the Land/s :* ____________

4. Total Area Applied for Conversion (in hectare) : ____________
Location of the Property/ies : ____________

5 Name of Developer : ____________
Address : ____________
Tel No. : ____________

B. LANDHOLDING INFORMATION

1.

Name of Registered Landowner/s	Title No.	Lot No / Survey No.	Date of Registration	Area Per Title	Area Applied

2. With encumbrance/s [ ] Yes [ ] No
If yes, specify type of encumbrance/s ____________
If covered with several land titles, specify OCT/TCT Nos. with encumbrance(s)____________

[ ] With concurrence of mortgagee or of individual/entity in whose favor the encumbrance wa constituted.
[ ] Without concurrence of mortgagee or/of individual/entity in whose favor the encumbrance was constituted.

* If application is for housing project pursuant to EO'45, S. 2001, the required certification from HLURB, DA, and DENR may be submitted at a later time.

Type of Document	With Document	Sufficient	Not Sufficient	Without Document
1. Notarized Application for conversion (LUC Form No. 1)				
2.a Photocopy of TCT/OCT Certified by ROD not later than 30 days prior to filing. If the property/ies is untitled: • DENR-CENRO certification that the property/ies is alienable & disposable, and • Certification from the Clerk of Court/CENRO that: a) the titling process/proceedings has commenced; b) there are no adverse claimants				
2.b True copy of TCT/OCT of the subject land/s as of 15 June 1988 and all successor titles until the present title.				
2.c True copy of current Tax Declaration				
3. Project Feasibility Study				
4. JVA or any other business arrangement on the use of the land between the landowners/EP/CLOA holders and the developer				
5. Narrative description of the area Development Plan describing in detail the activities, program components, phasing, schedule • Work and Financial Plan, all duly certified by a licensed engineer, architect, or land use planner				
6. Proof of financial and organizational capability to develop the land/s, such as: • Statement of Project Cost and availability of potential funding sources for the development of the project; • Profile of developer including details of past or current development projects; • Most recent Financial Statements duly authenticated by a certified public accountant • Copy of Certificate of Registration and certified true copy of recent General Information Sheet (GIS) certified by the SEC or notarized GIS Or, For socialized housing project to be implemented by LGU: • Sangguniang Bayan (SB) Resolution appropriating funds for the project, and • SB Resolution authorizing the LGU to undertake the project				
7. Socio-economic cost/benefit study				
8. Photographs of the property				
9. Affidavit of Undertaking (LUC Form No. 2)				
10 MARO Certification (LUC Form No. 3)				
11. Notice of LUC Application (LUC Form No. 4)				
12. HLURB Certification (LUC Form No. 5				
13. DA Certification				
14. DENR Certification (LUC Form No 6)				
15. DENR-ECC when the subject land is within an ECA or will involve the establishment of an ECP				
16. SPA/Board Resolution (if applicant is other than the owner)				
17. Concurrence letter of the mortgagee, if any				
18. If applicant involves priority development areas: [ ] NEDA-NLUC endorsement if under EO 124 [ ] HLURB endorsement if socialized housing (LUC Form No. 7) [ ] PEZA board resolution approving the project for ECOZONE project				
19. If the applicant is FB of CARP: • Certification from LBP (LUC Form No. 8) • Certification from the PARO (LUC Form No. 9)				
20. Vicinity Map				
21. Lot Plan prepared by a duly-licensed geodetic engineer indicating the lots being applied for and their technical descriptions, name of owner/s, lot number and area				
22. Directional Sketch Map				
23 Map of the Development Plan (for socialized housing, the Map of the development plan submitted must be marked "reviewed by the HLURB")				
24. Topographic map (if subject property is mountainous, upland, or hilly)				

Remarks:

Pre-evaluated by: ____________

Date: ____________

LUC FORM B
SERIES OF 2002

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Center for Land Use, Policy, Planning and Implementation
Office (Central/RCLUPPI): ____________

To be filled up by CLUPPI/RCLUPPI

ASSESSMENT OF LUC APPLICATION FEE AND INSPECTION COST

Name of Applicant ____________
Location of Property/ies ____________
Area Applied for Conversion ____________
Amount to be paid

Filing Fee	Inspection Cost	Total
P_____	P_____	P_____

Approved for payment:

Authorized CLUPPI/RCLUPPI
Representative

To be filled up by ACCOUNTING DIVISION

DATE ____________

ORDER OF PAYMENT

PAYOR ____________
PARTICULAR ____________

AGRARIAN REFORM FUND (FUND 158)

JOURNAL ENTRIES

Account Symbol	Debit	Credit

Obligation No.
Deposit to: Trust Account

O.R. No. ________ Date: ________
Amount ________
Collecting Officer ________

Chief Accountant

Distribution of copies:
Original - CLUPPI/RCLUPPI
Duplicate - Accounting Division
Triplicate - Applicant

lucform a

LUC FORM C
SERIES OF 2002

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Center for Land Use, Policy, Planning and Implementation
Office (Central/RCLUPPI): ____________

To be filled up by CLUPPI/RCLUPPI

ASSESSMENT OF BOND

Name of Applicant ____________
Total Area Applied for Conversion (in hectares) ____________
Location of Property/Landholdings ____________

Province: Municipality:	Area (In Hectares)	Zonal Value (In Pesos)	Total Zonal Value (In Pesos)
Barangay A			
Barangay B			
Barangay C			
TOTAL			
Cash Bond (2.5% of total zonal value)			
Surety Bond (15% of total zonal value)			

Approved for payment:

Authorized CLUPPI/RCLUPPI
Representative

To be filled up by ACCOUNTING DIVISION

DATE ____________

ORDER OF PAYMENT

PAYOR ____________
PARTICULAR ____________

AGRARIAN REFORM FUND (Fund 158)

JOURNAL ENTRIES

Account Symbol	Debit	Credit

Obligation No.
Deposit to: Trust Account

O.R. No. ________ Date: ________
Amount ________
Collecting Officer

Chief Accountant

Distribution of copies
Original - CLUPPI/RCLUPPI
Duplicate - Accounting Division
Triplicate - Applicant

lucform a

LUC FORM D
Series of 2002

(To be filled-up by CLUPPI/RCLUPPI)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Center for Land Use Policy, Planning and Implementation
Office (Central/RCLUPPI): ____________

BRIEFER

APPLICATION FOR LAND USE CONVERSION

Name of Landowner/s : ____________
Representative : ____________
Address : ____________
Location of Property/ies : ____________
Total Area (In Hectares) : ____________
Proposed Use : ____________
Date of Filing : ____________
Developer : ____________
Address : ____________
No. of Parcels : ____________

(Attached Description of Landholdings Per Sworn Application for Land Use Conversion)

Agency	Remarks	Certifying Officer/ Designation	Date
HLURB			
DA			
DENR			

Other Documents

(Use separate sheet if necessary and attach as an annex to this LUC Form)

Findings/Issues:
(State lacking requirements, clarifications to be made [i.e. applicant, government agencies])

LUC FORM E
SERIES OF 2002

(To be filled up by CLUPPI/RCLUPPI)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Center for Land Use, Policy, Planning and Implementation Office
Central/RCLUPPI: ________

NOTICE OF CONDUCT OF OCULAR INSPECTION

To : ____________
____
____

Please be informed that CLUPPI/RCLUPPI members will conduct an ocular inspection on ____________ of the propert/ies being applied for land use conversion by ____________ (name of applicant) located at Brgy. ________ ____________, Municipality of ____________, Province of ____________.

Kindly ensure that you are duly represented during the conduct of said ocular inspection. Also, please submit proof that this Notice was duly received by the MARO/s having jurisdiction over the property/ies applied for conversion and that the data of inspection has been indicated in the required billboard(s) at least five (5) days before the conduct of the ocular inspection.

The CLUPPI/RCLUPPI members will proceed to the MARO Office before proceeding to the area/s to be inspected on the data of inspection.

Head, CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Secretariat

LUC FORM F

(To be filled up by the Investigating Team)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Center for Land Use Policy Planning & Implementation Office
Central/RCLUPPI_____

FIELD INVESTIGATION REPORT

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Name of Applicant : _____

B. Location of Property/ies : _____

C. Total Area (In Hectares) : _____

D. Proposed Use : _____

E. Date of Inspection : _____

II. DESCRIPTION OF LANDHOLDINGS

A. BASIC DATA

Registered Owner	Lot/Survey No.	OCT/TCT/TD Patent/Deed No.	Area Per Title (In Hectares)	Area Applied (In Hectares)	Location Barangay Municipality/City/Province
TOTAL					

B. DISTRIBUTION [ ] Contiguous [ ] Scattered

C. TOPOGRAPHY

TOPOGRAPHY:
[ ] Flat (0-3% slope) Area: ____
[ ] Upland (3-8% slope) Area: ____
[ ] Hilly (8-18% slope) Area: ____
[ ] Mountainous (> 18% slope) Area: ____
[ ] Plateau Area: ____
[ ] Valley Area: ____

ELEVATION:
[ ] Less than 500 meters
[ ] Approx. 500 meters above sea level or higher

Remarks: _____

III. LAND USE

A. APPLIED AREA

1. Dominant

LOT NO.	LAND COVER (e.g. crop, grass, structure)	LAND USE	AREA (Has.)	REMARKS (If planted to crops, specify type of crops, productivity level and other information)

2. Others
3.

LOT NO.	LAND COVER (e.g. crop, grass, structure)	LAND USE	AREA (Has.)	Remarks (If planted to crop, specify type of crop, level of productivity, others)

Other Observation: _____

B. SURROUNDING AREAS

	LAND COVER (e.g. crop, grass/ structure)	LAND USE	AREA (Hectares)	REMARKS (Specify type of crop, level of productivity, others)
NORTH				
NORTH EAST				
EAST				
SOUTH EAST				
SOUTH				
SOUTH WEST				
WEST				
NORTH WEST				

Other Observation: _____

IV. ACCESSIBILITY (Distance to any of the following in km)

Municipal Hall _____ Barangay Center _____
Public Market _____ School _____
National Highway _____ Provincial Road _____
Municipal Road _____ Barangay Road _____
Other landmarks _____; specify _____

Remarks: (Specify type of road, means of access, others)

_____

V. IRRIGABILITY

A. [ ] Irrigated land where water is available to support rice and other crop production.
B. [ ] Within irrigated service areas served with irrigation water at least in one cropping season in a year
C. [ ] Irrigated land where water is not available to support rice and other crop production due to _____, but are within areas programmed for irrigation facility rehabilitation by the DA and the NIA
D. [ ] With existing irrigation facility but not being served by DA/NIA since _____ due to _____.
E. [ ] Lots are only partly within irrigation service areas; specify: _____
F. [ ] With irrigation canal traversing/adjacent to the property
G. [ ] Irrigable land already covered by irrigation projects with firm funding commitment
H. [ ] Irrigable land not covered by an irrigation project with firm funding commitment
I. [ ] With existing irrigation facility operated by private organization/ individual; specify type of irrigation facility and source of water _____
J. [ ] No existing irrigation facility within the property
K. [ ] With existing irrigation facility in the adjacent/nearby farmland.
L. [ ] No existing irrigation facility in the adjacent/nearby farmland.
M. [ ] With existing source of water ; specify _____
N. [ ] Others, specify : _____

VI. OTHER OBSERVATIONS:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Inspection Team:

_____ NAME/SIGNATURE _____ DATE
_____ NAME/SIGNATURE _____ DATE
_____ NAME/SIGNATURE _____ DATE

(To be filled up by the applicant)

LUC FORM G
SERIES OF 2002

REQUEST TO CONVERT/REFUND CASH BOND

To: _____

Dear Sir/Madam:

This refers to my application for land use conversion from agricultural to _____ use/s of _____ parcel/s of land with an area of _____ hectares, located at Barangay/s _____, Municipality of _____, Province of _____.

With the approval of my application for land use conversion on _____ as per Conversion Order No. _____, Series of _____, may I request that the cash bond paid under Official Receipt No. _____ issued by the DAR in the amount of _____, be:

A. ( ) converted into performance bond
B. ( ) refunded to the undersigned

_____
Applicant

_____
Date

(To be filled up by MARO)

LUC FORM H
SERIES OF 2002

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Municipal Agrarian Reform Office
Municipality of _____

CERTIFICATION ON STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT OF AREA APPLIED FOR CONVERSION

This is to certify that this Office conducted ocular inspection on _____ on the landholdings applied for land use conversion by _____ from agricultural to _____ use/s over ___ parcels of land with an area of _____hectares, located at Barangay/s _____, Municipality of _____, Province of _____, specifically identified as follows:

Registered Owner	Lot No.	OCT/TCT	Area/Title (In Hectare)	Area Applied (In Hectare)

(Use separate sheet if necessary and attach as an annex to this LUC Form)

The property/ies was/were found to be:

A. ( ) without land development
( ) with land development

Specify (i.e. road construction, excavation, tracing, drainage, etc.)

_____

B. ( ) without vertical infrastructure development
( ) with vertical infrastructure development

Specify:

_____

_____
Municipal Agrarian Reform Officer

_____
Date

LUC FORM I
SERIES OF 2002

(To be signed by CLUPPI)
Executive Director/Regional Director

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Center for Land Use, Policy, Planning and Implementation Office
Central/RCLUPPI: _____

AUTHORIZATION TO CONVERT CASH BOND TO PERFORMANCE BOND

This is to authorize the conversion of the cash bond posted by Mr./Ms._____ paid under Official Receipt No._____ issued by the DAR in the amount of _____ into performance bond in view of the approval of his/her application for land use conversion on _____ (dd/mo/yr) pursuant to Conversion Order No. _____, Series of _____, considering that no illegal or premature conversion was undertaken in the area as evidenced by the following documents:

[ ] MARO Certification that no development was undertaken prior to issuance of Order of Conversion (LUC Form H); and

[ ] CLUPPI/RCLUPPI Inspection Team report attached to the application (LUC Form F).

and that the said bond was not the subject of forfeiture by the DAR.

_____
Executive Director/Regional Director

_____
Date

LUC FORM J
SERIES OF 2002

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Center for Land Use, Policy, Planning and Implementation Office (Central/RCLUPPI) _____

To be filled up by CLUPPI/RCLUPPI

ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE BOND

Name of Applicant : _____
Location of Property(ies)/Landholdings : _____
Area Applied for Conversion (in Hectares) : _____
Date of Issuance of Conversion Order : _____
Total Zonal Value (Based on LUC Form D) : P_____
Amount to be paid:

[ ] Cash manager's check/cashier's check equivalent to two point five percent (2.5%) of the total zonal value of the land P _____
[ ] Surety Bond equivalent to fifteen percent (15%) of the total zonal value of the land P _____

Assessed by: _____

To be filled up by ACCOUNTING DIVISION

ORDER OF PAYMENT

DATE _____

PAYOR _____
PARTICULAR _____

AGRARIAN REFORM FUND (FUND 158)

JOURNAL ENTRIES

Account Symbol	Debit	Credit

Obligation No.
Deposit to: Trust Account

O.R. No. _____ Date: _____
Amount _____
Collecting Officer _____

_____
Chief Accountant

Distribution of copies:
Original - CLUPPI/RCLUPPI
Duplicate - Accounting Division
Triplicate - Applicant

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LUC FORM K
SERIES OF 2002

(To be signed by CLUPPI)
Executive Director/Regional Director

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Municipal Agrarian Reform Office
Municipality of: _____

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION OF PROJECT AND/OR COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITIONS OF CONVERSION ORDER

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Name of Registered Owner/s: _____
B. Representative: _____
C. Developer: _____
D. No. of Parcel/s: _____
E. Total Area Approved for Conversion: _____
F. Location of Property/ies: _____
G. Purpose/s: _____
H. Conversion Order No.: _____
I. Date of Approval: _____
J. Period of Development: _____
K. Expiry Date: _____
L. Description of Landholdings: _____

Registered Owner	Lot No.	OCT/TCT/ TD No.	Area per Title (In Hectares)	Area Applied for Conversion

(Use separate sheet, if necessary and attach as an annex to this LUC Form)

II. STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT

This is to certify that on the basis of the ocular inspection conducted on _____(dd/mo/yr), the project was found to be:

A. ( ) fully developed in accordance with approved development plan

B. ( ) partially developed vis-à-vis development plan
Specify: _____

C. ( ) totally undeveloped

III. STATUS OF COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITIONS IN THE CONVERSION ORDER:

A. ( ) proponent has fully complied with conditions;

B. ( ) proponent has not complied with conditions;

Specify: _____

IV. EXISTENCE OF PROTEST

A. ( ) without protest against the application for conversion

B. ( ) with protest against the application for conversion

Specify grounds for protest: _____

_____
MUNICIPAL AGRARIAN REFORM OFFICER

_____
Date

People, Events & Products

Aries Espinosa, Editor
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

RP's finest gift items to get excellence awards at WTC

THE COUNTRY'S finest and world-class gift items will get excellence awards during the staging of "Corporate Giveaways 2002," an international product exhibition that will be held at the World Trade Center Metro Manila from July 3 to 6.

The award-winning items will be picked from among a huge assembly of corporate giveaways that will go on exhibit in this four-day event, which has been attracting hundreds of exhibitors and hundreds of thousands of visitors annually since 1989.

Corporate Giveaways 2002 is the country's undisputed premier buyers' show on business gifts, premiums, promotional ideas, and merchandise incentives.

These products will be classified into nine categories, each of which shall have a winner.

The nine categories are breakables, fabric, food and beverage packaging, indigenous, leather, metal, paper, synthetic, and wood. The nine winners will also get a 50-percent booth discount for next year's exhibition.

Open only to exhibitors, the awards will go strictly to products made in the Philippines, regardless whether they contain local or imported materials, or both.

Qualified for the awards are only business gifts that can carry a corporate logo without sacrificing their aesthetic quality, workmanship, functionality, and use of the material. These gift items must reflect novel ideas and be characterized by innovative designs.

The judges will come from the marketing and publishing sectors, according to special events manager Raquel Romero of Worldexco, the organizer of Corporate Giveaways 2002.

Now on its 14th year, the event will match gift suppliers, manufacturers and importers with corporate buyers, enabling them to transact business for the year-round giveaways way ahead of the Christmas rush.

Inquiries or reservations can be made with Worldexco (891-8638, 834-7408, fax 834-0608, e-mail mktg@worldexco.com, website www.worldexco.com).

The event also enables exhibitors to launch new products and ideas to a readily receptive market, touch base with thousands of top-management executives in search of various giveaways, market their companies and promote various products and services directly, and establish a vast network of potential clients on a national and international scale.

Moreover, Corporate Giveaways also features "How to Seminars" on various interesting topics, a "Bargain Center" to enable visitors to shop for items at retail prices, and Loyalty Awards for exhibitors with at least 10 years of participation in this annual event.

SHANGRI-LA SPONSORS WIERSEMA CONFAB

Shangri-La Hotel Makati sponsored Fred Wiersema's May 23 conference 'The New Market Leaders'. Wiersema, a world-renowned business marketing and business strategist and author of a number of best-selling business books, was presented by TeamAsia in celebration of the company's 10th anniversary. TeamAsia is a strategic marketing communications consultancy firm. Shown, from left, are Jonathan M. Vitug, Shangri-La senior catering sales manager, Monette Iturralde-Hamlin, TeamAsia president, Gami Holazo, the hotel's marketing director, and Michael Alan Hamlin, TeamAsia managing director.

AMERICAN HOME, HENKEL TIE UP

American Home, makers of world-class quality home appliances such as washing machines, microwave ovens, refrigerators and other small kitchen appliances, recently signed a tie-up agreement with Henkel Philippines, manufacturer of Persil laundry detergent, Vernel fabric softener and other quality kitchen, home and laundry cleaners. For every purchase of American Home, Maytag and Magic Chef washing machines as well as selected models of microwave oven and refrigerators, customers will get Henkel products for free. Shown during the contract signing are, seated from left, Crisanta Aquino, president of Henkel Phils.. Inc., and Ramon C. Ramirez, marketing services manager of CMTC International Marketing Corp. Standing, from left, are John Marie Ledesma, Henkel product manager consumer products division, Ricardo R. Mercado, division manager laundry and home care, Jillen V. Oasan, product manager, trade events and promotion.

Zuellig's WMS sets standard

PULSE Logistic Systems' IT-based Warehouse Management System (WMS), used by Zuellig Pharma Corp in the Philippines, is being eyed for implementation abroad.

The Botswana Ministry of Health decided to implement the system following a visit by several of its senior personnel to Manila late last year. The delegation had specifically traveled to the Philippines to gain a comprehensive insight into the world's best practice operations of Zuellig Pharma Corp.'s Central Distribution Center in Canlubang.

The Botswana delegation examined the day-to-day use of the company's advanced WMS. ZPC had been using the system for over six years—a system developed and supplied by Pulse Logistics Systems of Australia. It is implemented and supported in the Philippines by Ayala Systems Technology Inc., who co-hosted the Botswana visit.

The Pulse WMS will be implemented in the Botswana Health Ministry's Central Medical Stores (CMS) in the national capital of Gabarone. It will form an integral part of a comprehensive computer systems upgrade by the Ministry, and which will also see the installation of a comprehensive range of management applications.

Situated in southern Africa, the landlocked Republic of Botswana is nestled between South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia. It has a population of some 1.5 million. Its health requirements are served by an effective range of central government, local government, mission and mining company health services.

CMS is tasked to provide for the drug and non-drug pharmaceutical needs of these health facilities. The store network serves approximately 30 hospitals seven days a week, 51 weeks a year. It carries over 5,000 product items sourced globally.

Pulse2000 WMS is expected to reduce distribution costs, speed product delivery, reduce warehousing errors and facilitate product recalls in the event that these should ever be necessary.

FUN AT KIDDING AROUND

The Kidding Around Nursery Co is a tutorial and playgroup center located on 304 Infante corner P. Guevarra Street, San Juan. The company is owned by vibrant pre-school teachers Michelle Arville, Myla Flores, and Jennie Punsalan. In Kidding Around tutorials, the students are provided with comprehensive exercises and drills in reading, math, writing, and other subjects. Kidding Around playgroup is a center where kids socialize, play, and learn at the same time. It deviates from the usual rigid structure found in day-care and school settings. It is the first playgroup in San Juan which offers hourly services. In Kidding Around Nursery, kids feel no pressure in learning. For more information, call 724-5381.

PARK 'N FLY INAUGURATED

A Philippine first in travel convenience, a multi-level carport with free airport shuttle service—the 5,000-sqm Park 'N Fly—aimed at business and holiday travelers, was inaugurated recently in its strategic location at the MIA Caltex complex at corner MIA and Domestic Roads in Pasay City. Joining Conrad Limcaco, president of Park 'N Fly (fourth from left) and wife Ilene in the ribbon-cutting ceremony are, from left, Mark Quebral, strategic asset management general manager, Caltex Philippines, Edgardo Manda, general manager, Naia, Manuel San Jose, director, Civil Aeronautics Board, Reynato Chua, director, Department of Tourism, and Antonio Calixto, vice mayor, Pasay City.

BITS & Clips

OSG celebrates 101 years

ON JUNE 11, the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) headed by Simeon V. Marcelo hurdles its centennial mark when it celebrates its 101st anniversary. Heralding the second century of its existence is the recognition of its directions and thrust not only on "integrity in advocacy" but also on "Social Justice through Advocacy". The occasion will be celebrated at 2 p.m. at the OSG Building at 134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City, with special guest speaker chair Haydee Yorac of the Presidential Commission on Good Government.

Walker 3-in-1 promo

WALKER Briefs and Undershorts, a leading name in fashion underwear, recently launched its latest promo Walker's "Back-to-School 3-in-1 Value Pack". The new promo provides customers an easy way to shop for all his underwear needs. The Value Pack is made up of Walker brief, undershirt and boxer shorts available in all sizes, and save as much as 40 percent discount on men's underwear. Promo runs until June 15 and is available at the Landmark, Robinsons, Isetann, Sta. Lucia and all SM outlets nationwide.

Comelec deadline

IN CONNECTION with the July 15 Synchronized Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) elections, the period for filing of certificates of candidacy is ongoing until June 10 (from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during regular working days and up to 12 midnight of June 10) at the office of the election officer of the city or municipality comprising the residence of the candidates.

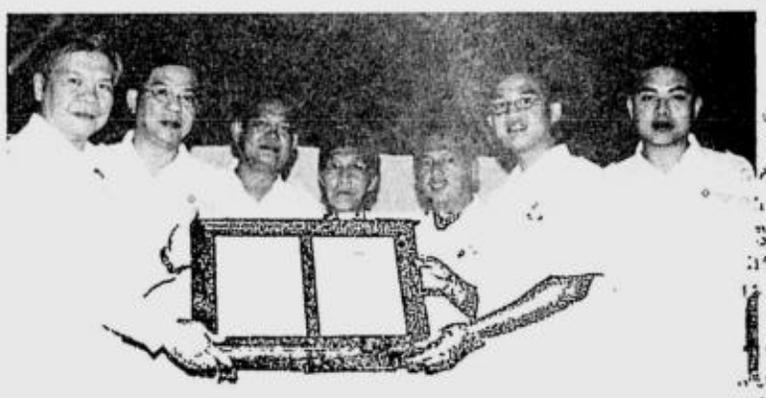
Villacorta-Arellano passes NY Bar

VILLACORTA

LAWYER Anna Teresa C. Villacorta-Arellano passed on May 10 the New York Bar given early this year. She finished her Master of Laws at the New York University last year, with specialization on corporate law. Before that, she was with the Castillo Laman Law Office for five years after her graduation from the Ateneo College of Law in 1995 and the University of the Philippines' School of Business Administration, magna cum laude, in 1990. Anna Teresa is married to Rene Arellano, a computer consultant at the New York Stock Exchange. She is the eldest of lawyer Hector A. Villacorta and Teresita C. Villacorta.

Homecoming rescheduled

THE UP General Alumni-Faculty Homecoming and Reunion has been rescheduled from June 8 to June 15, Saturday, 4 p.m. at the Ang Bahay ng Alumni, UP Diliman Campus, Quezon City with the theme "Peace and Tolerance Through Inter-Civilizational Dialogues", as announced by UPAA president Eduardo F. Hernandez. All UP Alumni, especially the 2002 Junilarians, are enjoined to attend the annual event. This year's jubilarians are the graduates of Class 1942 (Diamond Jubilarians), Class 1952 (Golden Jubilarians), Class 1962 (Ruby Jubilarians) and Class 1977 (Silver Jubilarians). On this occasion, awards will also be conferred on UP's outstanding alumni. For further information, call the UPAA secretariat at 929-8327, 920-6871, 920-6868, 920-6875 (telefax), 920-5301 local 4390 or e-mail up.alum.assn@pacific.net.ph.



B-MEG'S LANDMARK ACHIEVEMENT

Aces Agri-Manufacturing Corp., B-MEG Nueva Ecija plant was recently awarded with the ISO 9001:2000 Certificate. Aces AMC started its tolling operations in 1998. It is the only B-MEG satellite plant to have achieved the said system recognition. Shown, from left, are Renato Navarrete, CIPI managing director, Aces AMC directors Emmanuel S. Liwag, Edgardo M. Cayanga, Eduardo A. Wy, and Andres Merlin Bernardo. The management team is headed by Toby M. Cayanga, VP and GM and Erickson D. Liwag, operations supervisor.

A glimpse of the modern American home and garden

WHAT ARE the interesting features of the modern American home and garden?

Filipino home lovers and garden enthusiasts will be able to get a good view of the modern American home and garden right here in the Philippines.

The US Commercial Service, the American business center in Manila, will set up the American Pavilion at Home & Garden Asia 2002 scheduled for Sept. 19 to 21 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila.

The American Pavilion will display the modern American home and garden, complete with all the latest equipment and facilities, including all the amenities for high-class living. The pavilion will be transformed into one elegant home and garden awash with the latest home furnishing and horticultural delights.

Organized by H&G International, a division of Leverage International, Home & Garden Asia 2002 is supported by the US Commercial Service, European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), Subdivision and Housing Developers Association (SHDA), Philippine Horticultural Society, Philippine Bonsai Society, and Philippine Orchid Society.

The trade show is Asia's premier and most productive marketplace and venue for specialty retailers and wholesalers, home furnishings boutiques, gourmet and gift stores, and mass market retailers.

Leading manufacturers and suppliers of home and garden products from Asia, Europe and the Americas have already confirmed their participation in the three-day event, the first of its kind to be held in the Philippines.

Interested firms have still time to join the trade show. For more information or inquiries, call Elizabeth M. Cruz at 818-6828 and 813-2473 or Robert Sanchez at 813-2472 and 810-1389.

Product FILES

Adidas joins World Cup fever

ADIDAS, the world's leading football brand, introduces its new apparel and accessories line for the 2002 Fifa World Cup. With the colorful jerseys, shirts and caps, Adidas joins all football fanatics in this global passion for football that grips the world every four years.

The World Cup phenomenon, however, is not new to Adidas. Adidas is at the heart of football, and understands, shares, feeds and celebrates World Cup Fever together with fans, players, and federations around the world. Adidas is an official sponsor, supplier and licensee of the 2002 Fifa World Cup. It outfits 10 of the 32 participating teams and has the best team portfolio at the event, with defending World and European Champion France, Argentina, China, Germany, Japan (co-host), Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Turkey.

In addition, Adidas provides the Official Match Ball for the tournament, the Adidas Fevernova. The official match ball is available in the Philippines, with only 40 pieces distributed nationwide.

Catch the World Cup Fever, get your Adidas World Cup items in Adidas shops and leading department stores.

Hallmark Channel presents mini-series on the life of Fidel Castro

OVER the past four decades, Fidel Castro has been villified and even demonized by governments and various non-government agencies in a seemingly never-ending attempt to remove him from Cuba, where he has ruled since mounting a successful revolution to topple the corrupt military dictatorship of General Batista.

That Castro remains Cuba's president despite such vigorous and sustained attempts is a subject that has sparked endless discussion and debate. The issues surrounding are perhaps just as fascinating and complex as the man himself.

Controversial

Hallmark Channel on cable TV explores one of the most fascinating and controversial figures of the 20th century in "Fidel," a two-part mini-series directed by David Atwood.

"Fidel" stars Gael García Bernal, "The Mummy" actress Patricia Velasquez and Victor Hugo as Fidel Castro.

The mini-series charts the Cuban leader's early days as a young lawyer fighting for the cause of the down-trodden to his paranoiac iron-fisted reign as president.

"Fidel" airs on June 14 and 15, 9 p.m.

Martin was director Atwood's only choice to play the title role, after being impressed with the passion and strength the Mexican actor displayed in his readings in a series of auditions.

Emotional

While Martin may not be known to audiences outside of his native Mexico, he is no stranger to acting. As a drama student, he had done everything from Shakespeare to Moliere to Ibsen. He has also done a lot of TV work.

He says "Fidel" posed a huge challenge for him. "Although visually, I only have a little resemblance to this widely recognizable real-life character," he says.

While conversant in English, Martin admits the 400-page script in which the character of Castro is practically on every page, "made the work pretty daunting, especially if one considers that I had these incredibly long monologues that run a grueling emotional gamut."

Martin's portrayal of Castro has caught the eye of Hollywood since the mini-series premiered on American TV.

"I've been asked to stay here to see what happens in six months," says the actor who is now based in Los Angeles.

He was signed up by a talent agency and is now working to improve his English.

"Then perhaps I will have better chances in Hollywood," he says.

Hallmark Channel is seen on Home Cable's Channel 49, SkyCable's Channel 38, Destiny Cable's Channel 25 and local PCC and Cable Boss affiliates.

OPENS JUNE 12 !

MTRCB RATING G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

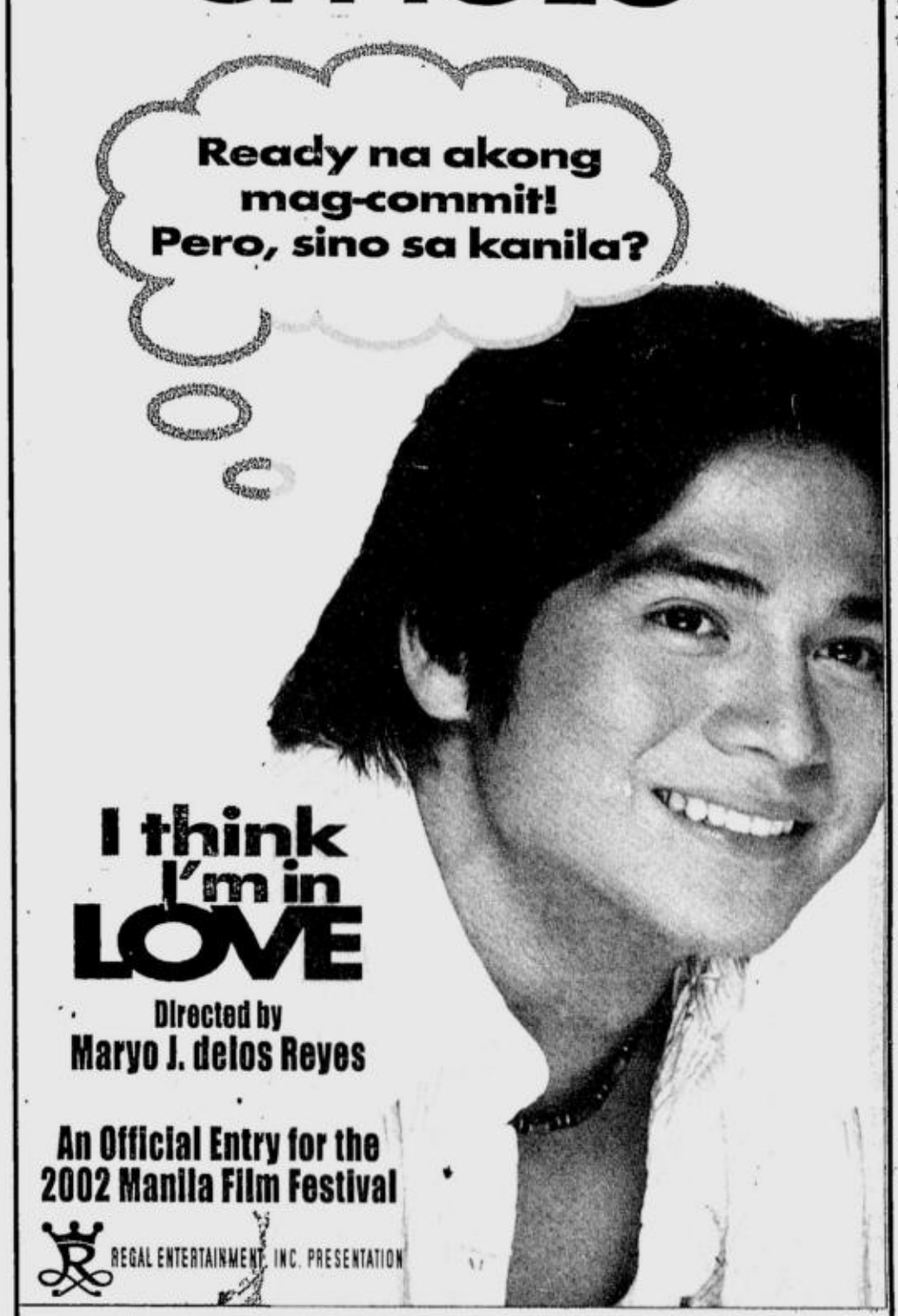
Si JOYCE

CELEBRATE FANS DAY WITH PIOLO, JOYCE AND THE ENTIRE CASTS TODAY 4 PM AT SAN ANDRES BUKID ONYX STREET
PREMIER NIGHT ON JUNE 11 AT ROBINSON'S ERMITA CINEMA 6

OPENS JUNE 12 !

MTRCB RATING G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

Si PIOLO



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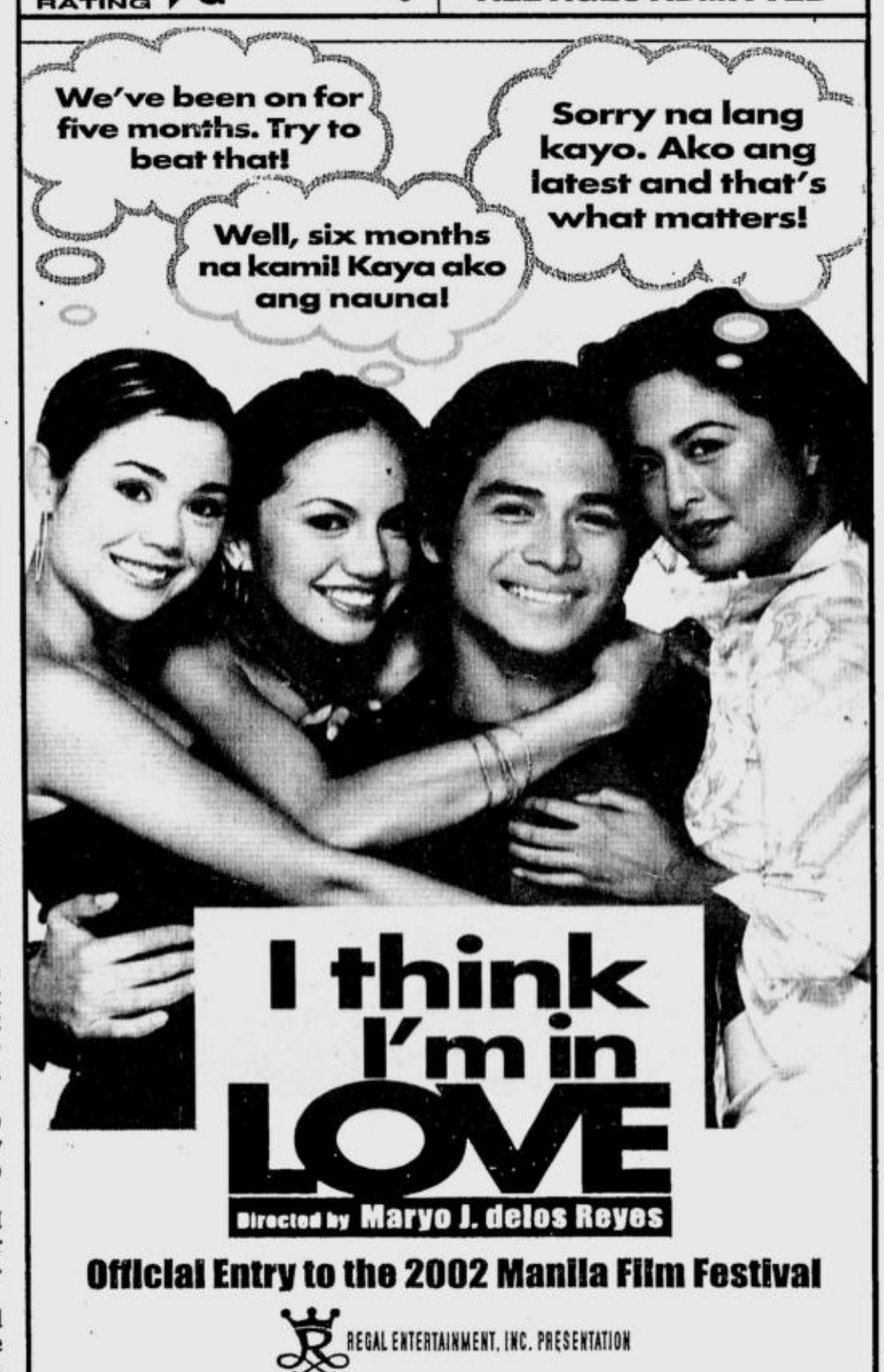

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'Radyo Pitlag' drama to compete in New York

"THE WAR-TORN Heart of Nana Dolor," a drama feature on "Radyo Pitlag" that was aired on Radio Mindanao Network (RMN 558 Khz), achieved finalist status in the 2002 International Radio Programming competition in New York and will go on to compete for higher awards.

Winners will be announced at award ceremonies of the New York Festivals to be held at the Marriott Marquis on June 20.

"Radyo Pitlag," produced by Pathways Production Inc. (PPI), is a weeklong 30-minute broadcast drama-forum that aims to share valuable information to listeners as well as entertain.

"The War Torn Heart of Nana Dolor (Giyera sa Dibdib ni Nana Dolor)" was written by Gil Mendoza. It is the story of a mother who takes issue against the war in Mindanao as she agonized over the fate of her soldier son.

"Radyo Pitlag" is a brainchild of Pathways President Noel Tolentino and Tet Maceda, professor of Philippine Literature and Philippine Studies at the University of the Philippines. Program anchor is lawyer Ferdinand Quicho.

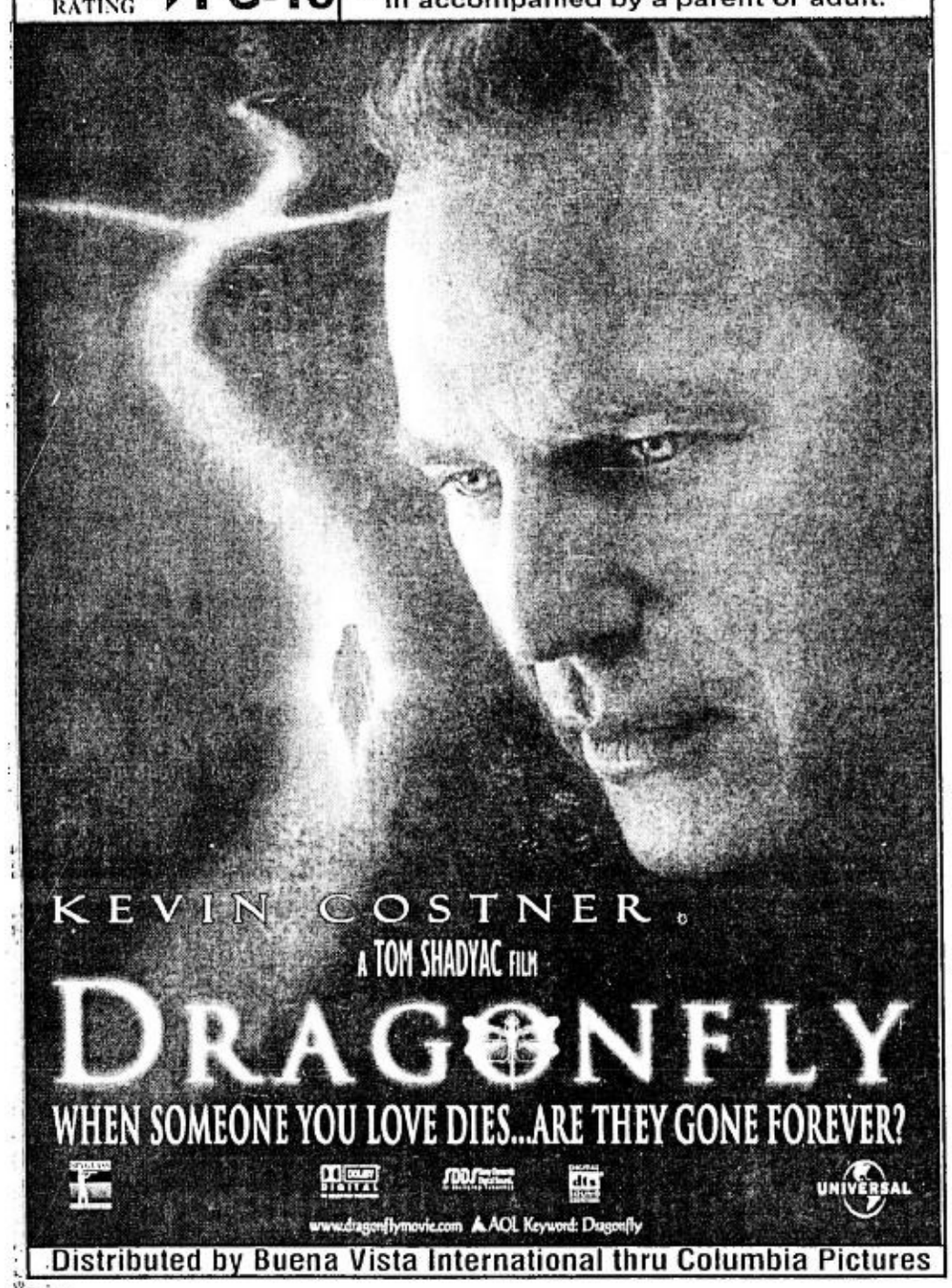
As endless as forever...

Forevermore

STAR CINEMA

NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult.



Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

POWER PLANT CINEMA

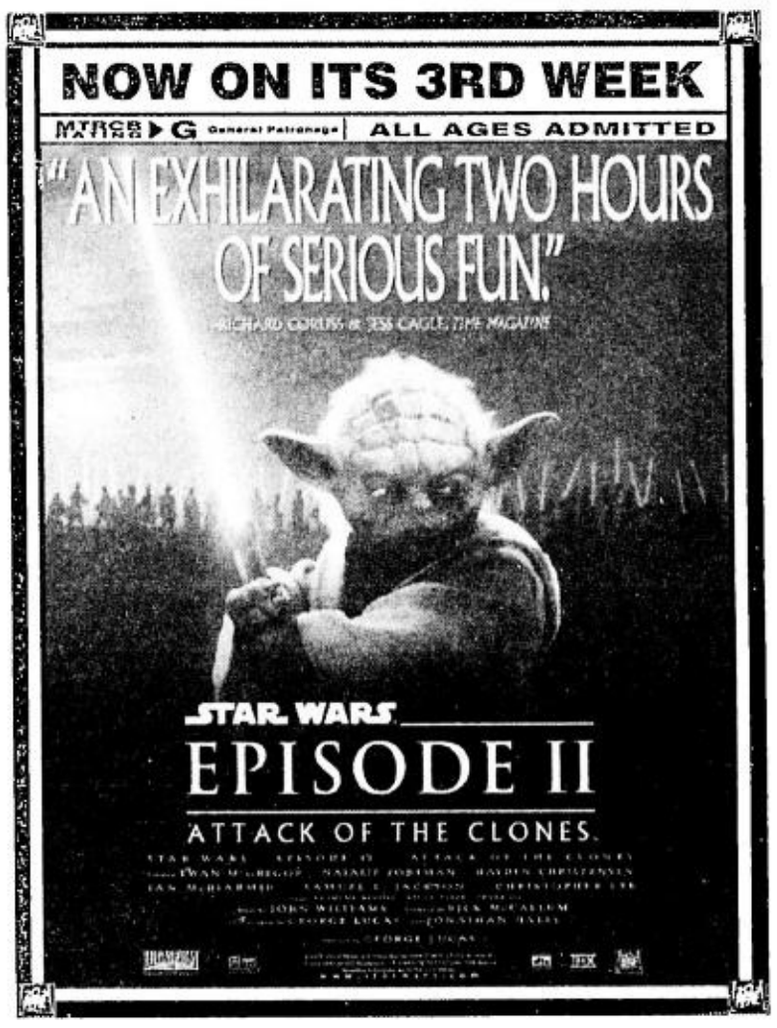
Rockwell Center, Makati City Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

PANIC ROOM - R18 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50	40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS - R18 11:15, 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 7:35, 9:40	MURDER BY NUMBERS - R18 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
A WALK TO REMEMBER - GP 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55	DRAGONFLY - P13 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50	A WALK TO REMEMBER - GP 12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

NOW ON ITS 3RD WEEK

MTRCB RATING G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

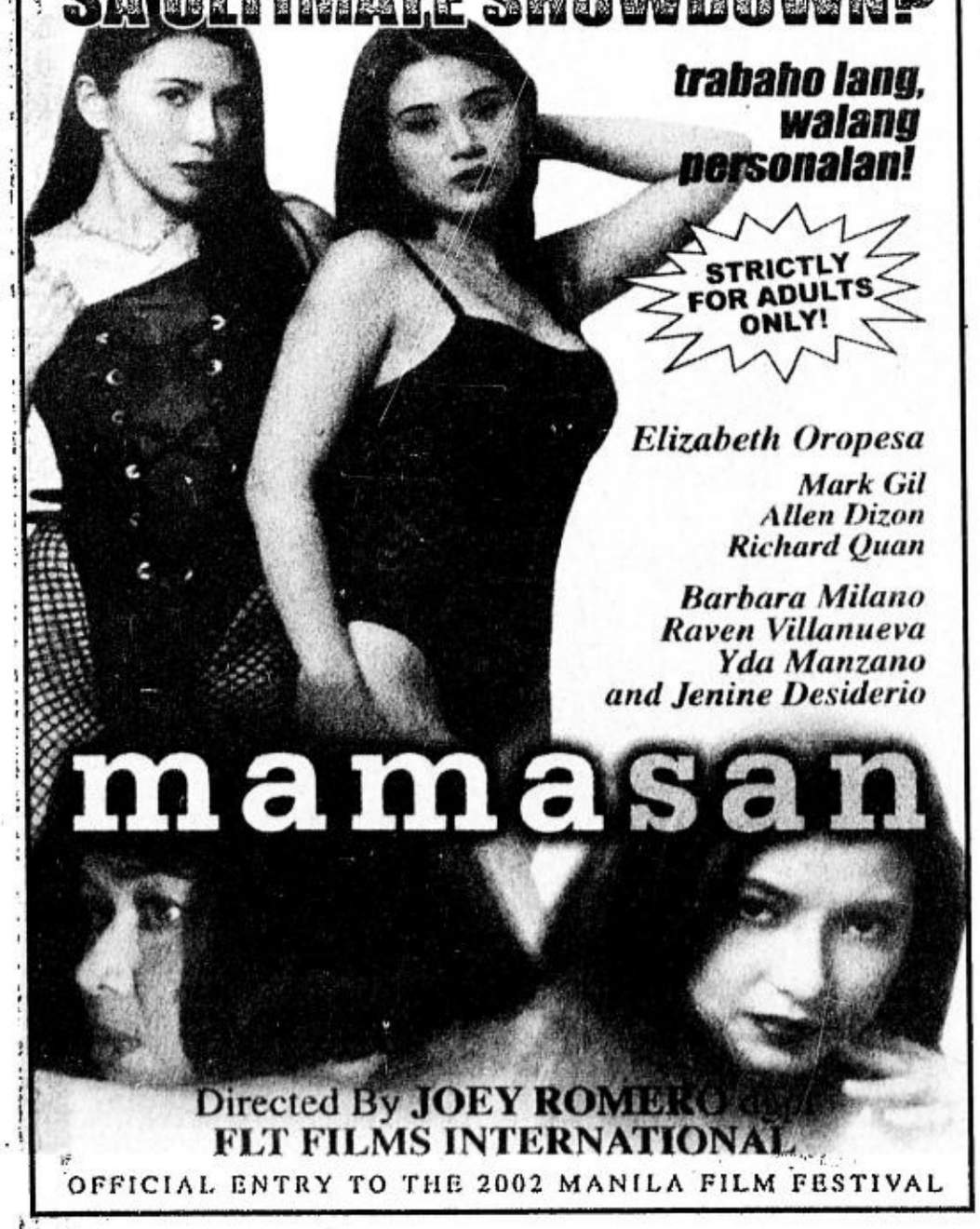


THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	CASS & CARY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	RESIDENT EVIL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	DRAGONFLY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	MURDER BY NUMBERS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	STAR WARS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	WALK TO REMEMBER
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	MASAKIT HUWAG IPILIT / BEST FRIEND LOVERS
ODEON	MURDER BY NUMBERS
ODEON-2	WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
ROBEN	SELDA
TANDEM-1	ITLOG
TANDEM-2	IKA-7 GLORYA
TIMES	JOHN Q / BLACK HAWK
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
REMAR	SELDA
REMAR-2	WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
B	CASS & CARY
C	WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	MURDER BY NUMBERS
CINEMA-2	FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	CASS & CARY
CINEMA-2	WALANG IBA KUNDI IKAW
CINEMA-3	SELDA
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PANIC ROOM
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	JIHAD WARRIOR
CINEMA-6	KILABOT AT KEMBOT
CINEMA-7	AKALA MO
CINEMA-8	SPIDER-MAN
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	RESIDENT EVIL
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	WALK TO REMEMBER
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-12	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
CINEMA-14	MURDER BY NUMBER
CINEMA-15	DRAGONFLY
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	PANIC ROOM
CINEMA-2	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
CINEMA-3	MURDER BY NUMBERS
CINEMA-4	A WALK TO REMEMBER
CINEMA-5	DRAGONFLY
CINEMA-6	A WALK TO REMEMBER
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

OPENS JUNE 12 !!!

HANDA KA NA BA SA ULTIMATE SHOWDOWN?



MTRCB RATING R-18 | Strictly for ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.

Talent Center kids as Moose Gear models

WHETHER in TV ads or in ABS-CBN shows, new wonder kids Yuuki and Daniel Morial, prove that children definitely rule.

Both new babies of the Talent Center, Yuuki and Daniel have everything going for them—cute young tykes possessing the talent and the attitude.

Quite expectedly, Moose Gear, the favorite brand of kids active wear, spotted them first and invited them to join the Moose Gear stable that also includes Britanny, Goyong, Nico and Trey.

Yuuki (Kadooka) is a Filipino-Japanese kid who stars with Maricel Soriano in the TV sitcom "Mary D' Potter." Energetic and pleasantly engaging, Yuuki has done the rounds of ABS-CBN 2 shows, most notable of which are "Recuerdo de Amor," "Maalaala Mo Kaya," "Flames," "Wansapanataym" and "Ang TV 2."

The five-year old boy also loves pet animals and the outdoors, especially the beach. During his recent visit to the Subic Freeport Zone for a pictorial of Moose Gear's new collection, Yuuki had the time of his life running on the sands of Miracle Beach, and playing with the dolphins in the Ocean Adventure show.

Eight year old Daniel, meanwhile, would probably be remembered as the cute hotdog-munching boy in a TV commercial.

A mainstay in the Aga Muhlach sitcom "D' Body and D' Guard," Daniel also tops the list of casters when they need a child talent.

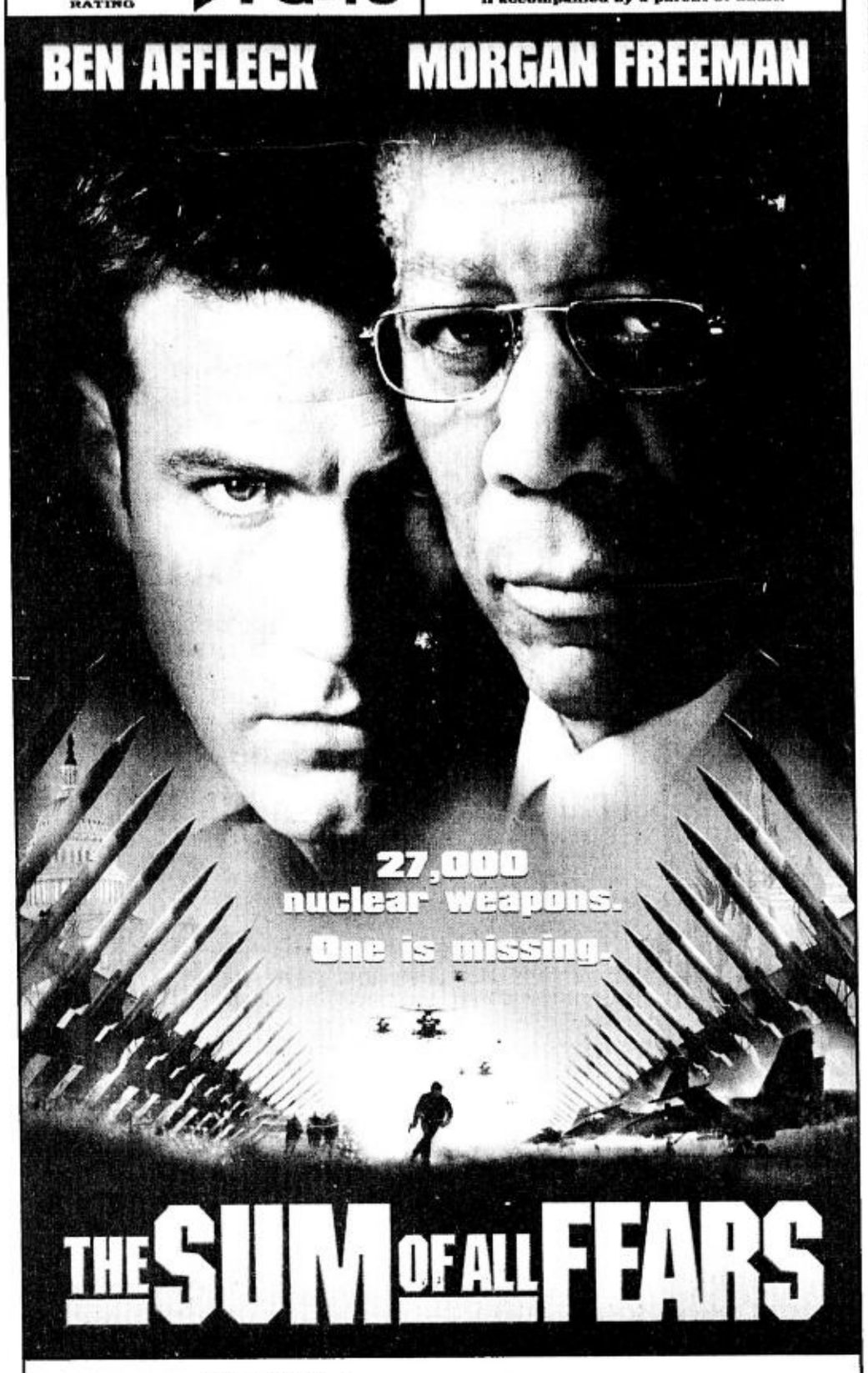
Among the shows he has appeared in are "Star Studio," "Okatokat," "Saan Ka Man Naroroon" and "Munting Paraiso."

Daniel's best breaks, however, are playing the son of Vilma Santos in two memorable movies—"Anak" and the forthcoming "Dekada '70" by Star Cinema.

MOOSE Gear models Daniel Morial (above) and Yuuki Kadooka.

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

BEN AFFLECK MORGAN FREEMAN



THE SUM OF ALL FEARS

united international pictures

VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

OPENS JUNE 19

THE FUTURE CAN BE SEEN

MINORITY REPORT

www.precrimeworld.org

OPENS JUNE 26

DreamWorks Pictures

MURDER CAN BE STOPPED

MINORITY REPORT

www.precrimeworld.org

OPENS JUNE 26

DreamWorks Pictures

THE SYSTEM CAN'T BE WRONG

MINORITY REPORT

www.precrimeworld.org

OPENS JUNE 26

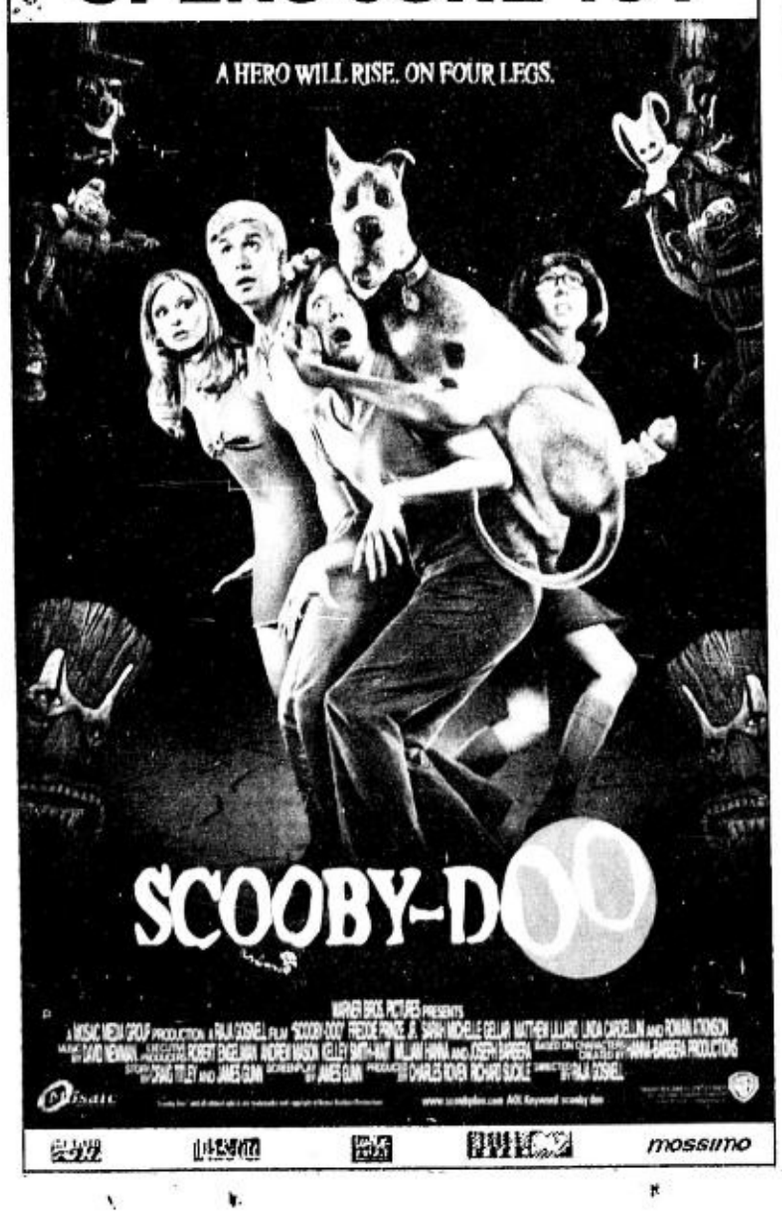
DreamWorks Pictures

Our love will stay together...

Forevermore

Star Cinema

OPENS JUNE 19 !

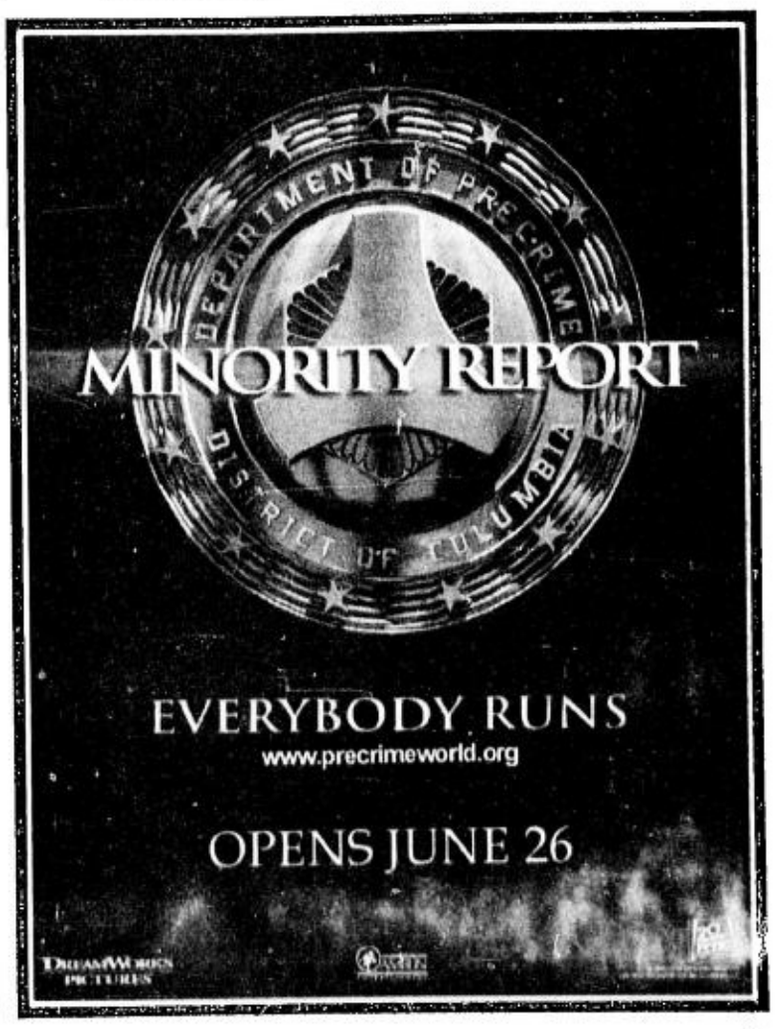


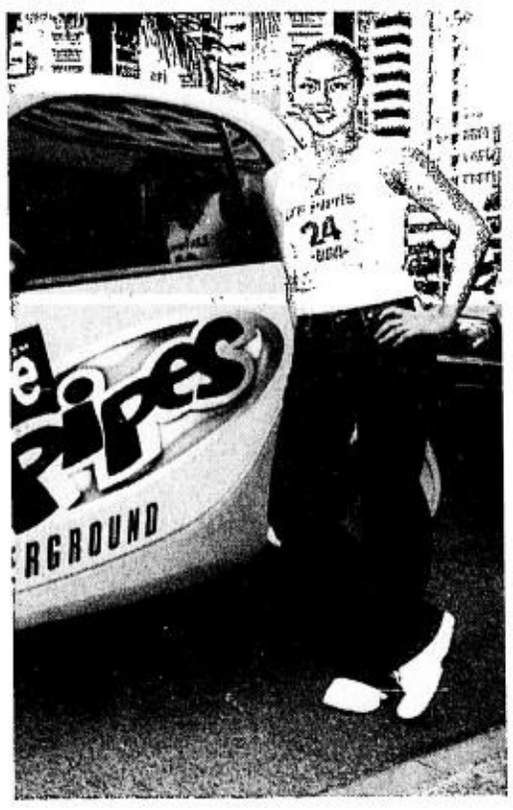
NOW SHOWING

Tuloy ang ligaya !
Para sa buong pamilya !

MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

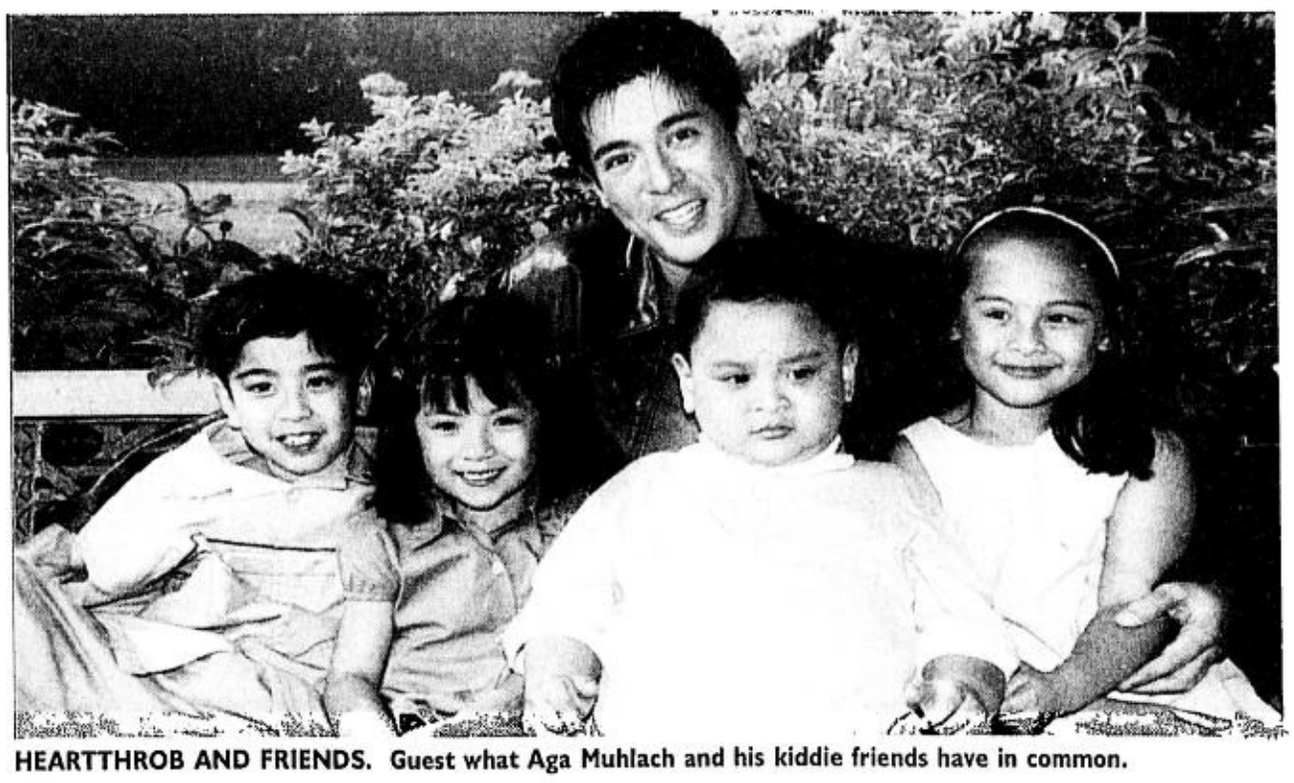
VIOLETT FILMS PRODUCTION
INITIAL PRESENTATION
MS. GLORIA ROMERO
CARMINA VILLAROEL • MATET DE LEON • GLADYS REYES
AND LONG MEJIA
SPECIAL PARTICIPATION OF
TONTON GUTIERREZ • RITA MAGDALENA • DICK ISRAEL





CELEBS GRACE STORE OPENING

She's one of tinsel towns beautiful faces and most promising actresses, but LJ Moreno is far from being the girl next-door type. This lady is into motocross, loves hip-hop music and prefers comfy clothes. The same sentiment goes for MTV Asia veejay KC Montero and one of Philippine hardcourt's towering figures Asi Taulava, who professes that hip-hop is their genre of music. All three believe that the local scene is on the rise again as mixes of Ja Rule, Ashanti and P. Diddy heat up the airwaves and the entrance of Lee Pipes clothing in the market is exactly what Manila's trashers need. Lee Pipes, one of the newest clothing lines of Lee Denim USA, caters to young and hip teens who want clothes that can go anywhere, from hanging around the malls to skateboarding in the streets. The first Lee Pipes store opened recently at The Edge, SM Makati's newest teen section with LJ Moreno, Asi Taulava and KC Montero gracing the opening.



HEARTTHROB AND FRIENDS. Guest what Aga Muhlach and his kiddie friends have in common.

Aga and his young gang in 'escape'

DID HE or didn't he? Heartthrob Aga Muhlach reportedly escaped from the set of one of his TV commercial shoots, together with four of his kiddie friends from the same commercial.

It turns out that it is a scene from Jollibee's latest commercial. Aga and the kids do escape to a Jollibee branch to have their fill of their favorite, "juicylicious, crispylicious" Jollibee Chickenjoy.

The new TV commercial is titled "Takas."

The commercial shows one good reason why *Tito* Aga has rapport with kids: They, Aga and the kids, are all die-hards fans of Jollibee Chickenjoy.

Frankie photo exhibit, fun and games at baby fair

KIDS were treated to a day of fun and excitement when they visited the Hi-Nulac booth at a recent baby fair at the Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall.

The kids and their parents also viewed photos of Frankie Cuneta Pangilinan, the newest celebrity baby. The photos of the daughter of megastar Sharon Cuneta and Sen. Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan were in the mini gallery of the "Everything About Babies and Kids" Fair. There were also behind-the-scene photos of Frankie during Hi-Nulac's TV commercial shoot.

The children had a great time at Hi-Nulac's play booth, amusing themselves with the many toys, some of which Frankie actually used in the commercial.

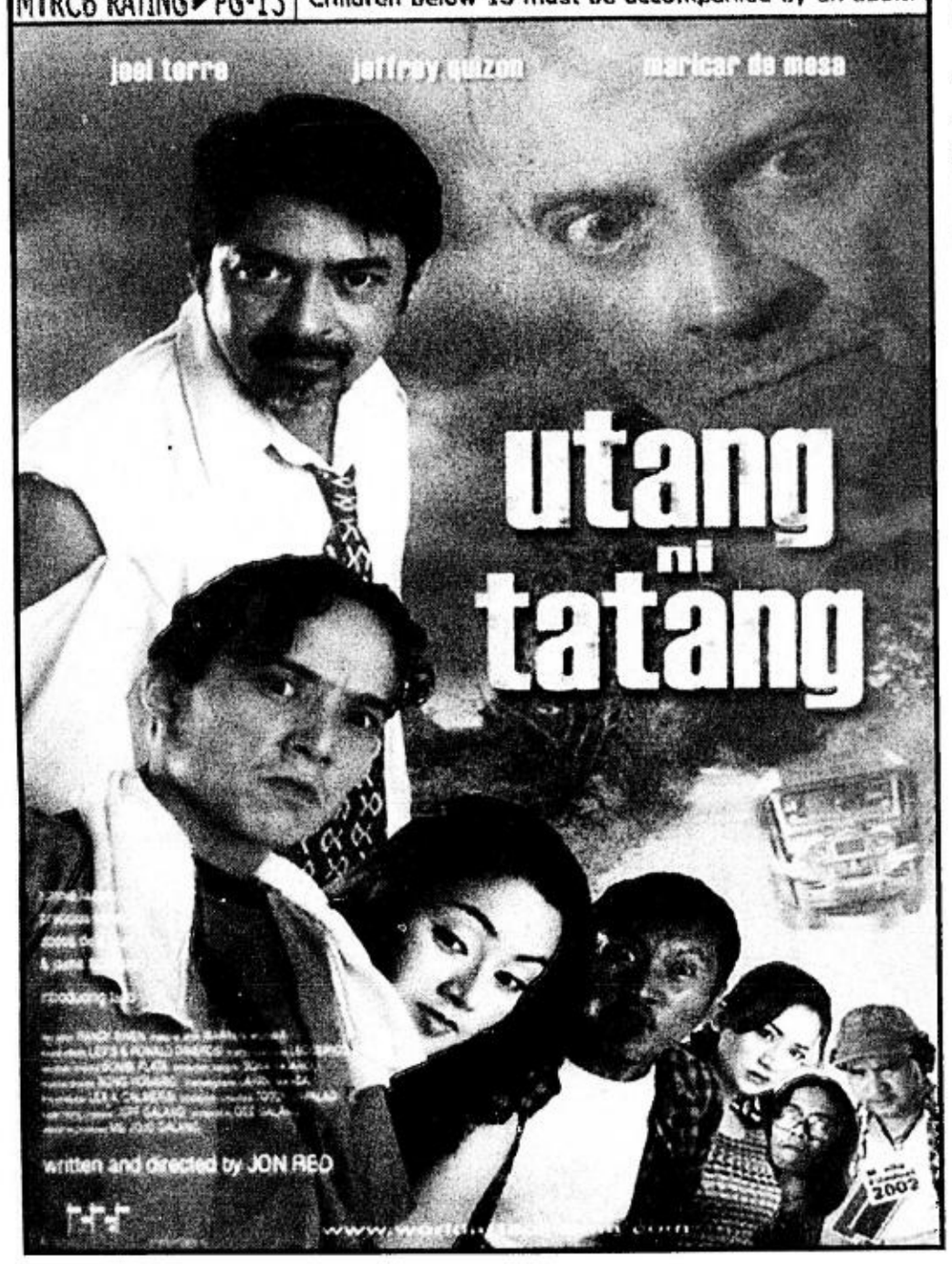
Moms and dads participated in the parlor games, such as "Bring Me" and "Singing Dad."

MOMS AND KIDS join a game with host Ruby Rodriguez.

OPENS JUNE 12 !!!

Official Entry To The Manila Film Fest 2002

MTRCB RATING▸PG-13 | Children below 13 must be accompanied by an adult.



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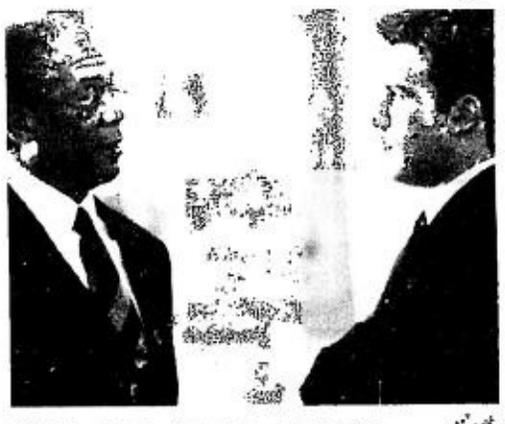
1 A WALK TO REMEMBER 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50 GP

2 DRAGONFLY 11:25, 1:45, 4:05, 6:25, 8:45 P 13

All Reserved Seating P120.00

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

MUSIC MUSEUM V1 | JUNE 8 & 15 REIGNE ON TOUR (Regine Velasquez) 9:00 PM



'THE SUM OF ALL FEARS'
Ben Affleck (right) is author Tom Clancy's newest Jack Ryan in "The Sum of All Fears," which will have a special screening at 7:30 tomorrow night, June 10, at Robinson's Galleria THX Cinema 1. Morgan Freeman (left) plays CIA director William Cabot.

For screening times, call 729-7777.
Schedules are subject to change without prior notice.

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3 CASS & CARY	3 A WALK TO REMEMBER 11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30	3 MURDER BY NUMBERS	3 DRAGONFLY 10:50, 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20	3 A WALK TO REMEMBER
4 MURDER BY NUMBERS	4 DRAGONFLY	MARTIN NIEVERA BACK ONSTAGE 9:00 PM June 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 & 29	4 40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS 12:25, 2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:05, 11:15	4 DRAGONFLY
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	6 MURDER BY NUMBERS			
	7 RESIDENT EVIL			

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The Ayala Malls Events

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

MAKATI ALABANG CEBU

The Ayala Malls Father's Day Events

Makati
Nickelodeon Kids Choice Awards
Stick-A-Pick Party
June 16, 4 pm, Glorietta Activity Center

Video Me Daddy, Daddy & Me Picture, e-Postcards, Father's Day Card Making Contest
June 10-16, e-Lounge Glorietta 2

Alabang
Motor Town 2002 Car Show
June 10-19, Activity Center

Live Entertainment by Silk Band
June 15, Activity Center

Cebu
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LiveWire performs back to back with Skin on Tuesdays.

Wednesdays are sure to be an exciting rendezvous with Fastrack and Red Sector-A, as they render hits from pop, R&B, dance and Top 40 genres.

It's a celebration of music from the '70s, '80s and '90s, plus some rap, R&B, and soul courtesy of Shoop and Big Nite Out (BNO) on Thursdays.

On Fridays, X2C dishes out Top 40, pop and retro ditties.

SoundMinds performs till dawn with a hefty serving of favorite party music.

For reservations, call Marvin or Mok Olarte at 897-3480 to 81.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

Playtime with Mikey Arroyo and Angela Montenegro on page C2

Angela's 'Despedida de soltera' on page C8

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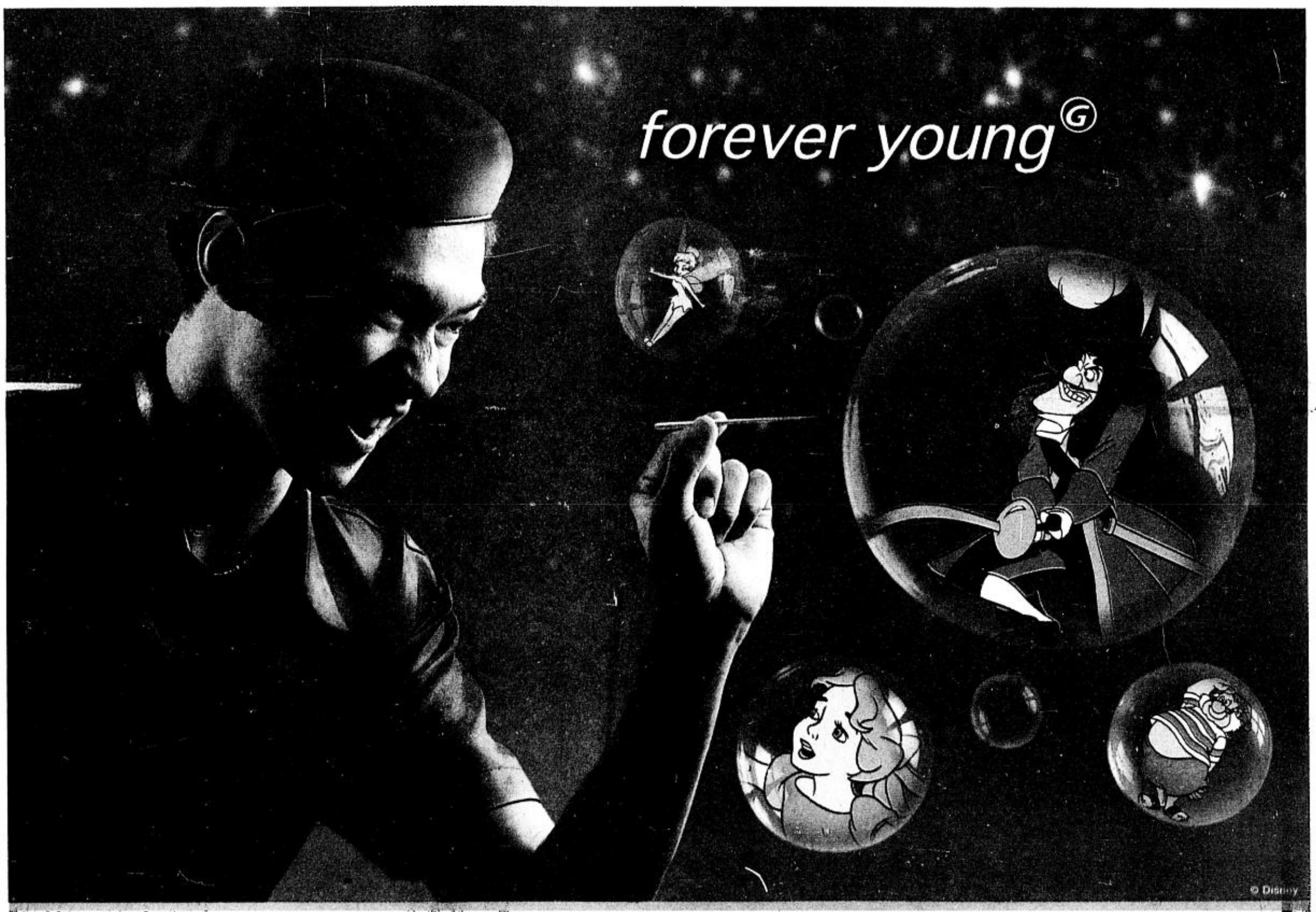

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MIKEY ARROYO AND ANGELA MONTENEGRO

To have and to hold . . . on a budget

'I would like to emphasize that there were many offers for exclusive television coverage rights to our wedding . . . We decided that we would not use this wedding to make money. We'll open it to any network and any newspaper'

AT FIRST people made a fuss when the President's eldest son, Mikey Arroyo, an-nounced that he was marrying Angela Montenegro, who happened to be his sec-ond cousin. But that, too, passed because there are far more serious troubles the nation is facing, so people left the two lovebirds well enough alone.

PLAYTIME
By the staff

Lifestyle caught the groom and his bride one night at the Heroes Hall of the Malacañang Palace for a chat on their plans for their wedding day, which is only two weeks away. The wedding rites will be held in the morning of June 24 at St. John the Baptist Church in Lubao in Pampanga, where Mikey is vice governor.

What did you like about Angela? You must have been asked that many times before?

Mickey (M): Ummm, I would say, her sincerity, her willingness to learn about—not only learn, but to adapt to—my world because, come to think of it, you know, even though we're cousins, actually we come from basically different worlds, *eh*. She went to London, she lives in Forbes... As for me, I practically stay in the province because I'm vice governor there.

You have been with different kinds of people...

M: Yes. I'm an actor, so you can say I'm more *makamasa* than she is. But she is more than willing to adapt to my world, and I can see she's so sweet... she goes out of her way to be like them. And she's not frivolous. Sometimes you can't explain what you like in a person. Every time I see Angela I just start smiling and... it never seems to disappear.

Wow, how long did it take you to come up with that, Mikey? (Laughter) You both have nice smiles. That's good that you cause each other to smile. What about you, Angela?

Angela (A): Okay, he has maturity, he's responsible.

How old are you, guys?

M: Thirty three, now. But when we met, I was just 32...

A: Last year. I'm 28.

M: I was only...

A: Thirty two.

M: Thirty one! Because we met before my birthday, right?

A: Yeah.

M: So I was 31.

So you were talking about his maturity.

A: He's responsible.

In what way?

A: In what way? *Basta*... (Laughs)

All the time?

A: Oh no, no, but he makes me feel right and important. And it's nice. He's so *maasikaso*. That's what I like about him. Not just to me but also to his friends.

You don't think he's like that because he's a politician? (Laughter)

A: No, no... I know he's sincere.

When was the moment that you both realized you were in love?

M: I guess when, after the elections, I went to Baltimore to see her... to reaffirm my intentions, that I was serious about her. Actually, that was the first time we really had a chance to be just with each other!

Were you always in a group, and everybody's eyes were on you?

M: Yes, yes.

How are you feeling now that the wedding is just a few weeks away?

A: Excited.

M: Excited, yeah. Very excited. But I'm grateful that Angela's basically on top of everything. I still go to Pampanga.

Weekdays you're in Pampanga.

M: Most of the week. But that's only an hour away.

So, Angela, you're hands-on with the wedding preparation?

A: I'm on top of everything.

What about you, Mikey?

A: When I ask him, he says it's up to you *na*.

M: It's up to her. As long as it's simple but dignified. That's the criterion my mom and I agreed on.

What is simple?

M: Simple... *yung di gaanong magastos*. (Laughter)

A: On a budget..

PHOTO: MIKE ALQUINTO

***Pero* Joe Salazar...**

M: He's very good...

Is the gown finished?

A: *Wala pa*.

Tell us about your fittings with Joe.

A: I had my first fitting yesterday. It was beautiful. Just the lining itself really felt so nice *na*.

When it's done, what other things need to be prepared?

M: Actually, we don't know yet our budget because up to now we're still finding ways and means to scrimp and save. We look at it line by line. It will be a surprise to everyone how much we have achieved and saved.

How many people are supposed to...?

M: The number of guests is not really a barometer of the expense. You know why? For our wedding, we're having just a cocktail reception... That's a sure device to save on the expense. If we have a sit-down dinner, then our budget would be a certain amount per head, right? If you bring a friend of yours, then we'll spend the same amount for that person, right? However, if it's a cocktail reception, you bring another friend, our budget stays the same. And it's a reception. *Kung may* excess *na tao*, they're not there to eat. They're there to mingle.

That's why people throw cocktail parties. Who's making your barong?

M: Pitoy Moreno. He has done it for me ever since I was a kid. (Laughter)

From baptism to wedding...

M: Yes. And he's always been giving good prices. (Laughs)

How about your mom? Who's going to make the dress of your mom for that day?

A: Joe Salazar.

Joe Salazar *pa rin*?

M: I don't know, no.

A: Joe.

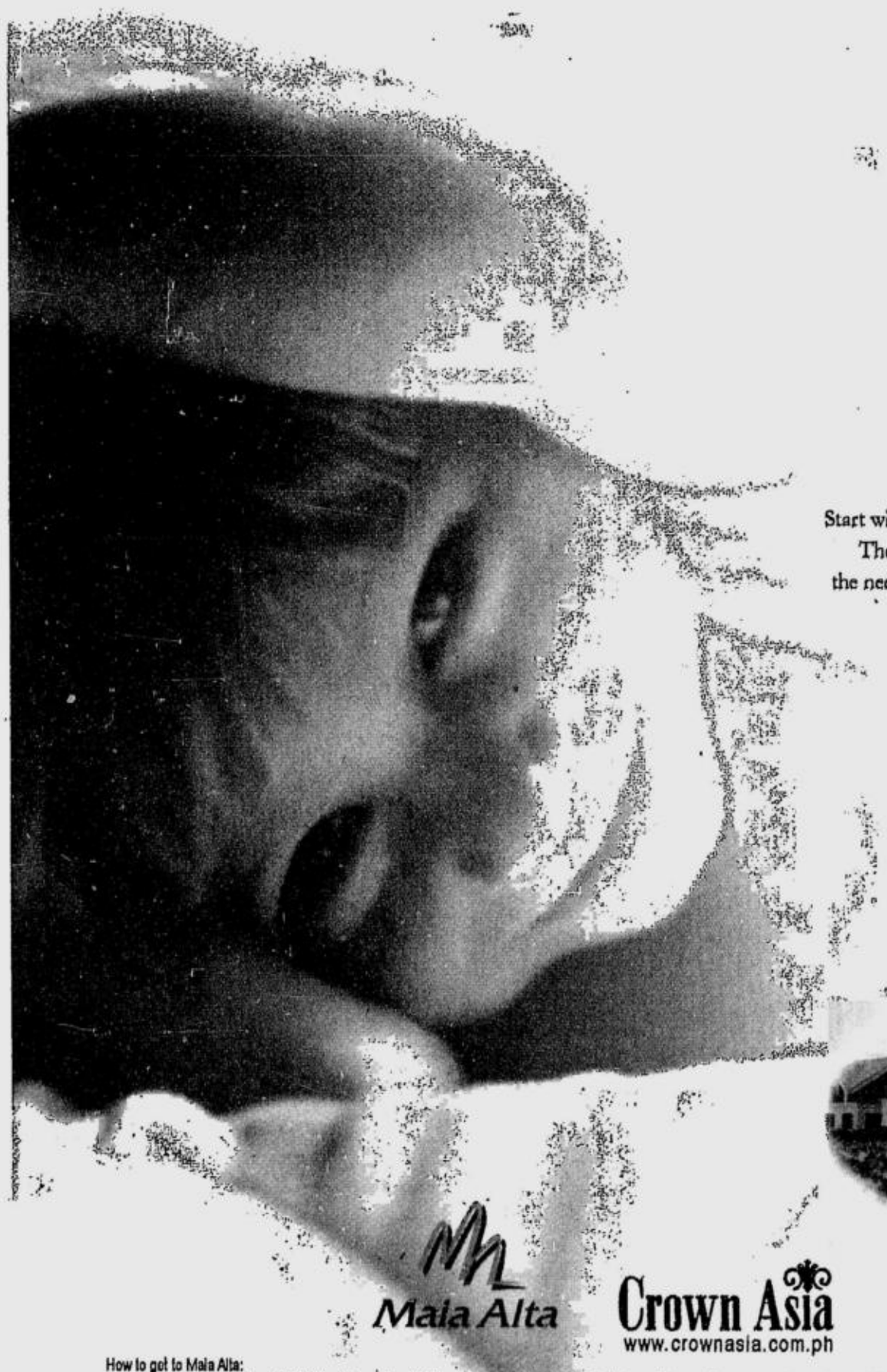
Joe seems to be the favorite presidential designer.

A: Yeah.

M: Yeah, well, there were many designers who offered their services, but Joe was the best deal. Aside from him being, if not the best, then one of the best, he gave us the best price.

You know, we Filipinos love weddings and it seems in every term now we can look forward to a presidential wedding.

TO HAVE/ p.C3



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To have and to hold . . . on a budget

From page C2

How do you feel now that all eyes are on you?

M: I don't think of it that way. We will try to show the Filipino people that even the wedding of a presidential son can be simple but dignified. That's basically what we want to show. You don't have to be frivolous.

So you're going to have a church wedding in Lubao...

M: That's our hometown.

Yeah, then you'll have a cocktail reception here?

M: Cocktail reception also in Lubao.

A: We'll be having one there and one here.

Where will the reception be in Lubao? In your house?

M and A: No, no. In the courtyard of the church.

M: Actually, we're breaking down the reception...

Yes, everybody would want to be invited ...

M: ... So the people from Pampanga don't have to travel to Manila and likewise the people from Manila don't have to go to Pampanga.

What do your constituents think of Angela?

M: Oh, they love her. Every time she goes to Pampanga to visit me, people there go crazy over her. They want to take pictures with her. My barangay captains, mayors, workers, they love her. The wives of my mayors love her. I think my province has fallen in love with her, the way I have.

And have you fallen in love with the province?

A: Yeah, of course. I like them very much.

The Kapampangans? What have you observed about them? Aside from the good food?

A: They're very *maalaga*. (Laughter)

What's the sweetest thing that Mikey has done for you?

A: Going to Baltimore and showing his sincerity.

M: I went to the States four days after the elections.

A: Right away.

M: Yes. I just finished my new movie with Judy Ann Santos, and then I flew there. I stopped my shooting during the elections, and two days later, after the elections, I finished my two-day shooting, and then I headed for the States. I wasn't even proclaimed yet as vice governor. That means, I guess, I went there right away.

Why did you do that, though?

M: I missed her so much...

Wow, I'm melting. I couldn't sleep, couldn't eat... (Laughter) Did you burn the phone lines?

M: No, no, no... election time, *eh*.

A: For a while *lang*...

And after Angela said yes to you, what was the sweetest thing you did for her?

M: *Basta*, every day of my life, I try to be sweet to her in my own way... Little things, big things, *basta* everything. I try to be sweet to her in my own little way.

Is Angela sweet?

M: The sweetest thing she's done for me is understanding that I need to be with my constituents, that it's an obligation.

She has never complained that you don't have time for her, for example?

M: No, she understands me.

A: Sometimes... (Laughter)

***Parang* she wants to say something. Angela, what do you want to say? Go ahead.**

A: Sometimes... (Laughs)

M: Sometimes, she asks for more time but she understands. Because they (constituents) are my priority. Like, for example, when we go out, I take her along. Sometimes when we have a date—"*Sige*, honey, we'll go to the," let's say, "anniversary of one of my supporters."

You call that a date?

A: Yeah, sometimes we have an "Angela" day.

M: Yeah, we have an "Angela" day...

A: Once a week.

M: We play badminton, we have dinner, movies...

A: But every day, we try to be together, even if we have, like, company, at least we're still with each other. That's okay *na* with me.

Is badminton one of your stress relievers because you're so busy with your wedding, and you're with your constituents?

M: *Tapos may* movie *pa*. It will be shown on June 5, with Geneva Cruz...

You're gonna have to promote that.

M: I am promoting already.

Nobody's offered a movie to you, guys?

M: They've offered but...

A: I don't know how to act... (Laughter)

You haven't tried.

M: Maybe later on...

A: No, no...

Maybe a romantic comedy. Is there going to be an "Angela" day even after the wedding?

M: (Pauses)

***Hala!* (Laughter)**

M: Yeah, of course.

Did you spell out all of these things to her—that you will spend a lot of time in the campaign and that she will be campaigning for you?

M: You know, she campaigned for me already. But we weren't together yet.

As a friend at that time?

M: As a cousin.

A: Yeah, as a cousin *pa lang*, at that time. Sige, I'll help my cousin nga. (Laughs)

M: My opening salvo, she was there. And she was...

How did she do?

M: Very well.

Was there ever time that you got jitters? *Parang*, "Oh my God, I said yes, but I'm not sure," or like Mikey, "I'm gonna get married, do I really want...?"

M: Not on my part.

A: No, no *naman*.

M: The fact that we're cousins has actually helped in our relationship.

A: And we didn't *naman* grow up with each other. Actually I just met him last year. Here...

You met each other here?

A: Arroyo reunion.

M: Here, at this table. In this area. I was seated there, she was here. I said, "Can I save that seat?"

A: *Sabi ko*, okay. And then after a while, he said, "Can you be my girlfriend for the campaign?" I was like, "What?"

M: No, no, no... (Laughter)

A: Yes, you asked me! And I was leaving for the States..

M: It was my line... to get to know her better... (Laughs)

You did not think. "Oh, this is a movie star."

A: He was probably joking so I wasn't taking him seriously. Up until...

M: Baltimore...

A: No, after the reunion, when we went to Baguio, when you invited me to Baguio, so we stayed at the Mansion House. We played golf the next day and the caretaker handed me a bouquet of roses. Ah, how sweet *naman*, and I said, thank you. And then later, he said, "Actually those roses were meant for you." *Parang* weird. I just let it pass.

When did you pop the question?

M: You know what, I don't know the exact date, or exact situation...

A: *Kasi* he always said, "I wanna marry you..." from Day 1.

M: From Day 1, I told her, "I want you to be my girlfriend, with the intent of marrying you in the future. If we get to know each other while I'm here, and if we still like each other, then we go ahead and get married." From Day 1, that was already the intention...

A: And then here, one night, we were walking in the palace, and then he just popped the question, "Are you ready to grow old with me?"

And what did you say?

A: Of course, I'm ready to grow old with you...

Oh, you said that right away?

A: Yes, right away.

But before meeting each other, did you have particular ideas about the person you'd want to marry? And does each of you fit the bill?

A: I wanted someone who's hardworking, mature, responsible, funny and that's it. Religious.

M: Me also. (Laughter) I guess, someone who'll always make me smile, presentable, but you know she's beautiful, she's way more than that. But more important is, someone who has the heart for what I love, and she has it.

How do you feel, Angela, when on the show-biz side, people link Mikey to his leading ladies?

A: Okay *lang*. I know it comes with it *naman*, *eh*. It's his job, so I trust him.

Did you see Judy Ann? Did you go out with her before..

M: It's not for me to say... (Laughter) But she's okay *lang*. She's nice. She's a nice girl. *Pero* how can I compare her? She's a superstar *naman*. *Kumbaga sabi ko, ako kay* Judy Ann, *hanggang paghanga lang, di ba?*

Is anybody here *seloso? Selosa?*

M: We trust each other.

But what do you disagree on?

M: We disagree on superficial things, *eh*, like what to eat. What are we going to do today? Are we gonna play? Are we gonna watch a movie?

A: Nothing really serious.

Who usually gives in? (Pause)

A: Both of us...

M: Me, more often than not... (Laughter)

Do you have a theme song?

M: Me, I want, (sings) "I'm more than a friend, na na na..."

A: That's "Superman." (Laughs) Is that a theme song?

M: Every time I hear that, I remember when I visited Baltimore.

That's a nice song. He re-

TO HAVE/ p.C7

Mikey: The sweetest thing she's done for me is understanding that I need to be with my constituents.

She has never complained that you don't have time for her?

Mikey: No, she understands me.

Angela: Sometimes . . . (Laughter)

PRE-WEDDING DINNER AT THE HOME OF TEYET PASCUAL. From left, Mikey, Angela, Pascual, Charito Montenegro, Finance Secretary Lito Camacho and his wife Kim Camacho

Great scores at the Men's Department from May 15 to June 16, 2002: 20% OFF on Oleg Cassini, Fruit of the Loom, Cocci Lorenzo and Dolce & Gabbana (available at Rustan's Makati and Shangri-La only) undergarments. • 25% OFF on selected Suporga items (except Rustan's Harrison Plaza). • FREE Oleg Cassini tank top with every purchase of a white shirt from MR and Oleg Cassini. **From May 22 to June 16, 2002:** FREE magnifying glass with every purchase of an MR or Oleg Cassini rain jacket.

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*Valid receipts can be used to redeem gift certificates at the Children's Department until August 16, 2002. Consignor and sale/discounted items are not included in this promotion.

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THE ARROYO AND MONTENEGRO FAMILIES. Mikey and Angela with their parents, the First Couple and Herman and Charito Montenegro

Night of three presidents and two love-struck cousins

NEXT IN THE ALTAR MARCH? Dato Arroyo and fiancée Kakai Manotok

From page C8

was the whole Montenegro household. Angela's sisters Emily Montenegro-Yupangco, Marinela Adad-Montenegro (the former actress Ana Roces) and Rose Montenegro, all radiant in their Joe Salazar gowns, led the guests to their designated seats at their Forbes Park home. Angela's parents, Herman and Charito Montenegro (who was in a purple Paul Cabral), were all smiles as they watched their daughter Angela and future son-in-law Mikey pose for the family photographer.

"We will definitely miss her. My son Greg and his wife Ella are leaving the house next week, and then 12 days later so is Angela, my most *cariñosa* daughter," said Mr. Montenegro. "But I'm quite comfortable with the wedding. Since they are cousins, I have known their family for years now." With that, he bestowed his full parental trust on his future *manugang*.

The celebration started promptly. "This is the most formal *despedida de soltera* I have ever attended," said an amused Dato Arroyo, Mikey's low-profile younger brother. He was with fiancée Kakai Manotok, an investment banker. If plans push through, wedding bells will ring for them next year.

But the evening was not all formalities. Chatter and fun-filled laughter came from the tables of Mikey and Angela's friends and family, all of whom had been looking forward to their union since the announcement of their engagement.

Sen. Loren Legarda, one of the wedding sponsors, was in a fuchsia cheongsam top and pants. She gave assurance that she would not shift sides despite what was going on in the Senate. She was seated beside First Gentleman Mike Arroyo and the other godparents of the wedding, which included Rep. Joe De Venecia and wife Gina, Emilio Yap and others.

Historical night

"This is history. Your *despedida de soltera* was able to bring three presidents together," said former President Fidel V. Ramos, also a *ninong* in the coming wedding. Former President Cory Aquino looked calm and collected in her blue Paul Cabral outfit as she expressed concern over the Abu Sayyaf hostage situation.

RESPLENDENT in an asymmetrical Joe Salazar

At the same table, looking rather pensive, was the President herself, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, the groom-to-be's mom. She was wearing the same gray, embroidered Paul Cabral gown she wore to the Patrick and Ingrid Go wedding. She would join in the conversation and smile when the topic turned to her son but mostly she was contemplative. Earlier that day American hostage Martin Burnham and Filipino nurse Edibora Yap were killed in the encounter reportedly between the Abus and the military.

Later the mood turned cheery as the cameras clicked to take snapshots of the two families together. "I enjoyed our picture-taking with the *ninongs*; it was like a casual prelude to our marriage," said Angela. Then she chatted briefly with the President, and as the two most important women in Mikey Arroyo's life exchanged knowing smiles, the cameras continued to click. And that, you might say, was another prelude to the wedding.

THE WOMEN IN MIKEY'S LIFE. Mom Gloria and soon-to-be-wife Angela

FAMILY PICTURE. Baby Yupangco, Rose Montenegro, Angela, Emily Montenegro-Yupangco, Greg and Ella Montenegro, all in Joe Salazar

POWER DINNER. Don Emilio Yap, Norma Chan, Sen. Loren Legarda, First Gentleman Mike Arroyo and Angela's mother Charito Montenegro

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To have and to hold... on a budget

(From page C3)

members you in Baltimore.

M: That was our favorite song at the time.

A: At the time. In Baltimore.

M: I was so happy. Vice governor-elect *ako nun*.

You were high at the time...

M: High, high, because I was with her.

So is anybody gonna sing that song at your wedding?

M: I don't think so. (Laughter)

What's the music for the wedding?

M: Ask Angela. I have no idea whatsoever.

A: First, there's a string quartet. Early evening. And then Moise...

From Stars?

A: And then after that, the Groove band is playing.

M: They gave us good prices. (Laughter)

Always the budget.

M: That's our main concern, *di ba*?

Who's more *iyakin* between the two of you?

M: No one...

So *walang iiyak* sa wedding.

A: I hope not.

The parents! (Laughter) When you told your parents, what was the thing that they told you that stuck to your mind?

M: You know, when I asked my parents for permission to see Angela, they told me, "If you see her, see her because you want to marry her." I had a girlfriend a long time before that, so *alam na nila kung saan pupunta*. But actually, my dad was saying, "Get to know each other, then one year, if you're still together, get married." And my dad told me to be a gentleman, to love your wife more than yourself, because he loves my mom more than himself.

Have you thought of kids?

M: You know, I wanted a kid after elections, but now I want one before elections...

Do you have names for your kids already?

A: *Wala pa*.

If it's a boy, what would be the name?

A: I like Fabrice...

M: What?

Okay, Mikey, Mikey... (Laughter) If it's a girl?

A: I like Camille.

M: No!

A: I like the name Camille.

M: Gloria Angelina...

A: *Bahala na*. (Laughs) We'll see.

The President belongs to a party. Is that a consideration in drawing up the guest list?

M: *Wala*. My mom doesn't really meddle.

A: Our priorities are friends.

M: My mom doesn't deal only with her partymates, *kasi* she's the President.

What about for the people of Lubao, your constituents?

M: A medical mission is Angela's and my gift to the province.

Angela, when you told your parents about getting married to Mickey, what did they tell you?

M: *Kasi* when I went to Baltimore, *alam na nila*.

A: They knew that he had wanted to marry me...

What did they tell you?

A: You know, to be patient, to understand his life, that he's a politician, so I'll try to understand.

What do you look forward to as Mrs. Mikey Arroyo?

A: Ummm...

What are you most excited about?

A: *Siyempre* that we're gonna be together.

Is there something you would like to change about Mikey?

A: No, I like him the way he is.

Is there something you want to change about Angela?

M: She's perfect.

So when you get married, would you consider living in the Palace?

M: We'll have a room here. *Siguro* just like my lifestyle now, I shuttle back and forth to Pampanga and the Palace.

Are you going have your own home?

M: Well, you know, we can never call this home because Malacañang is temporary.

Is your family coming from the US?

A: From the States, from abroad, my friends from London, they're coming, my best friend in high school from Spain is coming, and my classmate in London also.

Who's in the entourage? Your best friend?

A: Ah, yeah. My classmate in London, Grace Tordesillas, and my best friend in high school, Joanna Down. Another good friend of mine in college, Nicky Gomez, is part of the entourage also. And my other cousins.

M: Our cousins. (Laughter)

A: I mean, our cousins. (Laughter) My childhood friends.

M: My best man will be my brother Dato, then Chito Pamintuan, Peewee Cruell, Ram Mondragon, Jeff Katigbak, Jun Molina and Tonton Roman, Nel Cordoba, Chito Monzon...

So where is the honeymoon?

M: *Naku, wala pa, wala pa*.

A: We haven't talked about it yet.

M: Well, *importante 'yung* good budget. It doesn't matter where we'll be as long as we're together. As long as we find a good package.

I'm sure you will. *Baka may mag-regalo pa*.

M: *Ay hindi na, nakakahiya naman, sobrang laki nun*.

***Sino ba ang* principal sponsors?**

A: FVR, Emilio Yap, Boboy Macapagal (Diosdado Jr., Mickey's uncle and *ninong*), Enrique Aboitiz, Mario Cruell, and then former President Cory Aquino...

M: ... Senator Legarda, Gina de Venecia, Norma Chan..

A: And Sally Villaraza...

M: All of these people are basically with our family...

They saw you grow up?

M: Yes.

So are you guys in contact with the President? Does she give you any advice—*"Kamusta na yung* wedding? *Anong* plans?"

M: Yeah. Again, simple but dignified. She has other problems. She says, "It's not a production, okay." You know, I would like to emphasize that there were many offers for exclusive television coverage rights to our wedding.

They've been taking potshots at you about that.

M: Actually, it would have been a good chance to make a modest amount of money, but we decided that we would not use this wedding to make money. We'll open it to any network and any newspaper.

If you have all the networks there imagine all the cameras in the wedding...

M: But we will give them certain rules and regulations so that they will be allowed to take pictures of the wedding at the same time. It's a solemn occasion.

Who's going to do the flowers?

A: Toni Parsons.

Who's going to cater?

A: In Lubao, it would be Cabalen and here it's Cibo.

What's the thing that you're most excited about? Aside from your gown?

A: My life ahead with Mikey.

You think you have everything taken care of?

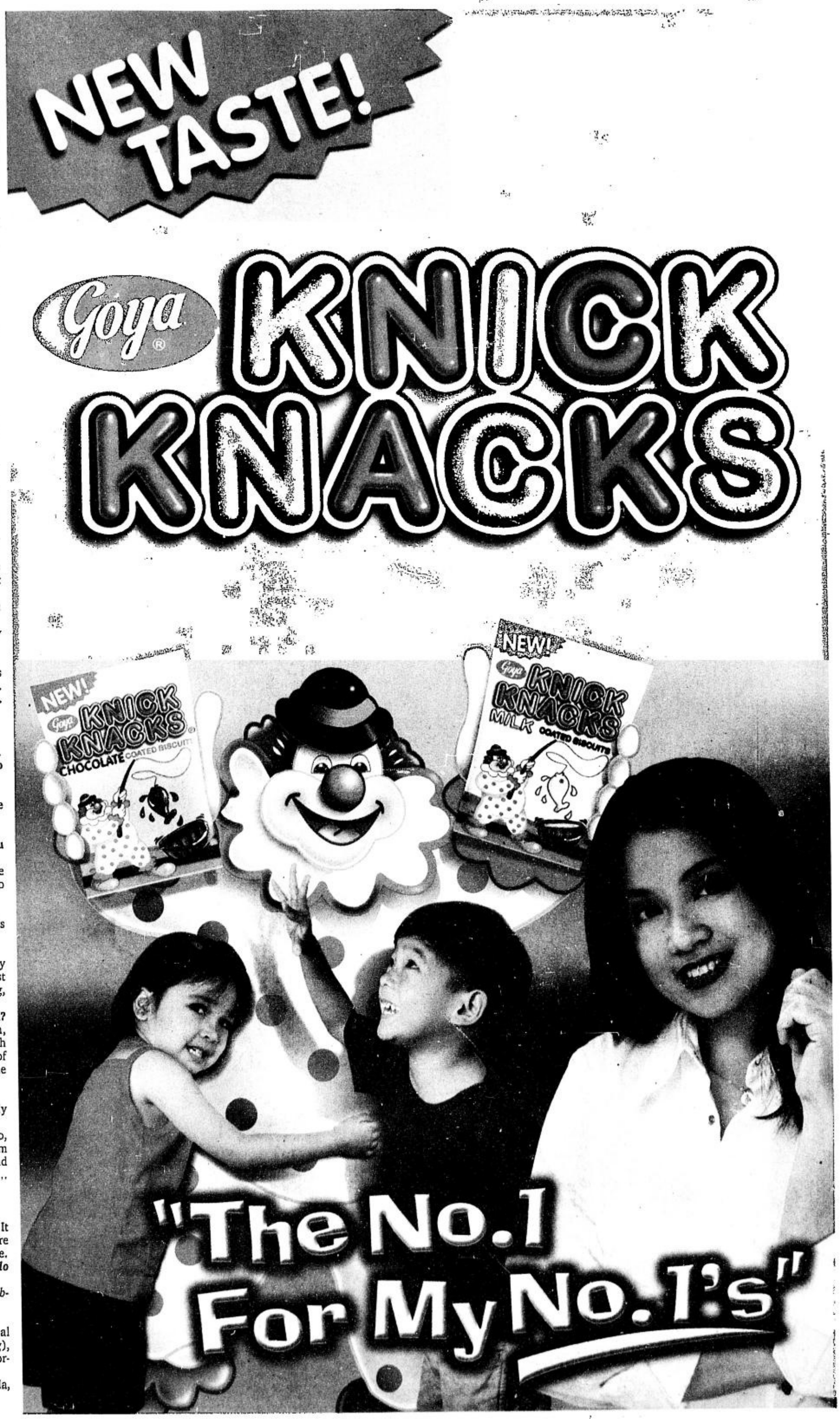
A: Yeah. I have a wedding coordinator who's helping me—Rita Neri. Joey Espino is also helping me. And Patrick Rosas.

M: *Pero alam mo*, a lot of people are helping us, and they're not charging.

***Naku*, Angela, you're marrying a spendthrift *yata*. (Laughter) Any last words to each other before the wedding day?**

M: To Angela? Like what I've said before: Just be yourself and the people will fall in love with you, the way I did.

A: I'm looking forward to a new life with him.



Night of three presidents and two love-struck cousins

Text by Tim Yap
Photos by Mike Alquinto

WHEN Angela Montenegro, the soon-to-be First Daughter-in-law, stepped into the room the night of her *despedida de soltera*, all eyes were on her. She moved with grace, carrying her fuchsia Joe Salazar gown with utmost flair. It was easy to see how and why she made presidential son, Pampanga Vice Governor and movie actor Mikey Arroyo, say goodbye to bachelorhood.

With barely two weeks left before the first wedding of the Arroyo presidency (June 24), the couple and their families have been in a frenzy. The despedida was a welcome break.

"I'm very happy and excited because the day will be here soon," said Angela, exuding a unique glow, the kind you only see in the eyes of a bride-to-be. Mikey, on the other hand, was busy entertaining guests—a humble hodgepodge of political *ninongs* and *ninangs*, close friends and family.

Gold empire candelabras draped with orchids and exotic flowers filled each *piña*-clothed table. Guests dined on Malachite plates from the collection of Dr. Eleuterio "Teyet" Pascual, who also decorated the Montenegro home for the pre-wedding celebration.

On hand to welcome the guests

NIGHT/ p.C4

PRELUDE TO A KISS. Angela Montenegro and Mikey Arroyo with his parents and their principal sponsors, former Presidents Fidel Ramos and Corazon Aquino at the Montenegro home last Friday

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Weddings & Engagements

Go south, young bride

By Cheche V. Moral

OH, how nice to dream of holding your wedding in style in some distant, romantic place, away from the mad rush of Manila, and still have all the frills of a luxurious hotel wedding.

GO/ p.D3

JUN Jun Escario

Johnlu Koa has a new partner. Find out more on page 7.

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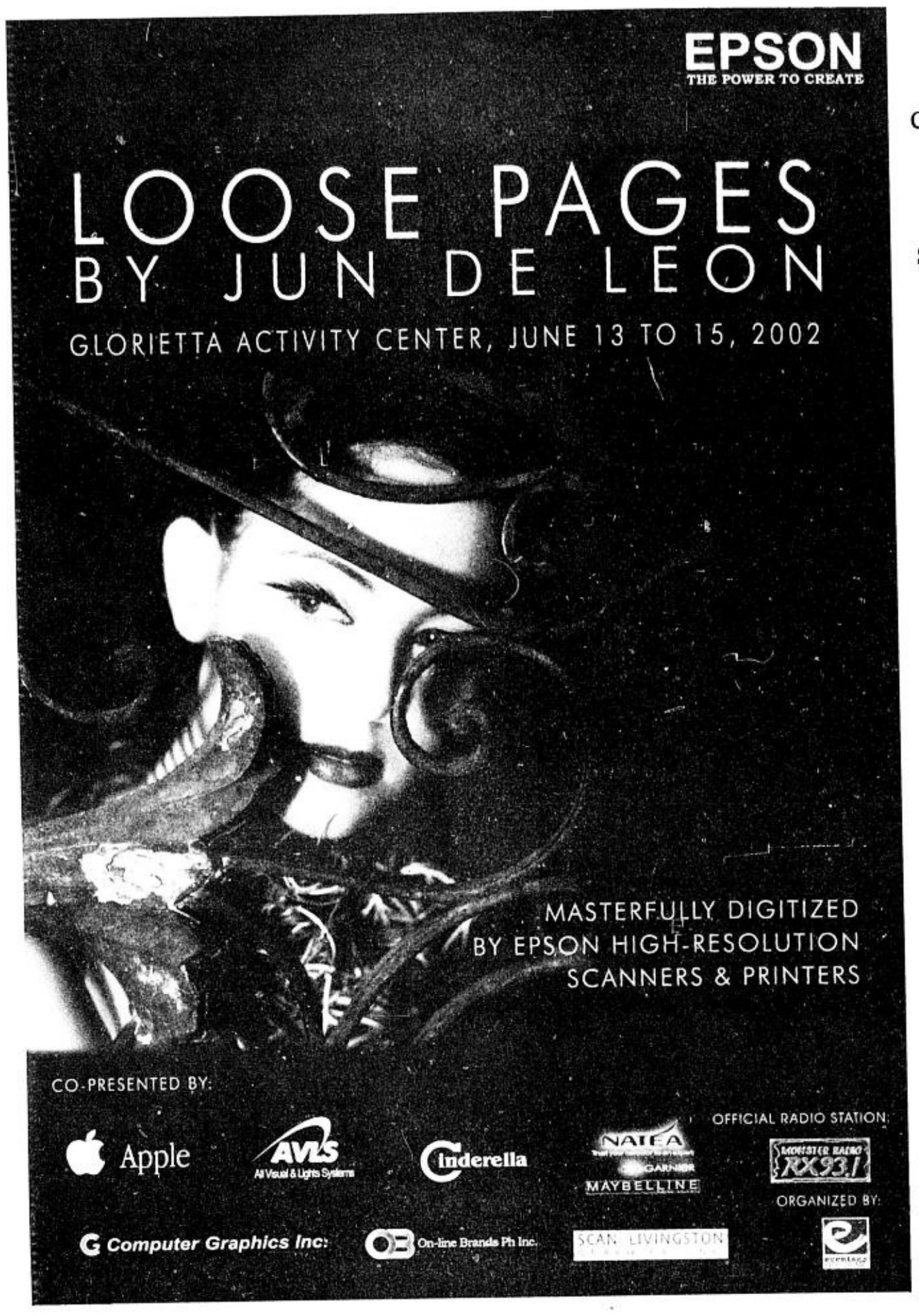


Two classmates of the Air Force school are airborne with romance

THE BRIDE and the groom

On the wings of love

By Joselle d.R. Badilla
PDI Mindanao Bureau

TWO pilots recently landed on the runway of the altar. The bride, 1st Lt. Lilian "Li-an" Victoria dela Cruz, who once served as a correspondent for the INQUIRER Mindanao Bureau, was met at the altar by her groom, 1st Lt. Marlouie "Bazster" Busto.

Their wedding day coincided with the 54th birthday of Li-an's father, Eleuterio Nonoy dela Cruz.

The newlyweds belonged to the Philippine Air Force Flying School Class 1997-Bravo. But from Oct. 23, 1995, when they first met, up to their graduation on Dec. 15, 1997, love did not strike Li-an and Bazster. That must be because of their hectic schedule.

After school, Li-an and Bazster became classmates again in the Basic Air Force Officer Course. Still, no sparks flew. Right after the training, members of the Class '97-Bravo were deployed to the various Air Force units.

Li-an, who is an MG-520 attack helicopter pilot, was sent to the 15th Strike Wing based in Sangley, Cavite, and Bazster to the 205th Tactical Helicopter Wing based at the Villamor Air Base.

When they bumped into each other one day, Bazster asked Li-an for her pager number, which she normally did not give away. But since they were classmates, Li-an thought keeping in touch would be very important.

Then Bazster started sending mushy messages, and of course, durian pies.

Finally, he courted her.

In May 1999, both were deployed to the Zamboanga peninsula. Their love for each other grew in the most unusual environment. In 2000, at the height of the military campaign against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in Kauswagan, Lanao del Norte, they were deployed to the 4th Infantry Division, which was then under Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, now the AFP's Chief of Staff.

Flying together

They flew together. Li-an provided air cover to Bazster, who would normally fly General Cimatu (the general would eventually become their wedding sponsor). They nurtured their love through wireless messages via pager and words of love using military lines, mobile phones and the e-mail.

During her wedding day, Li-an wore a princess-cut gown fashioned out of an ecru duchess satin with flower and leaves embroidery on the top and at the hem, designed and executed by Jontie and Nicky Martinez of Galatae.

As giveaways, the newlyweds gave the principal sponsors Theobroma chocolates and MG-520 and UH-H1s glass paperweights designed by football player-artist Danny Uy of Davao City.

Other giveaways included Boracay lamps facilitated by the bride's teacher-sister, Kit, who came all the way from Boracay.

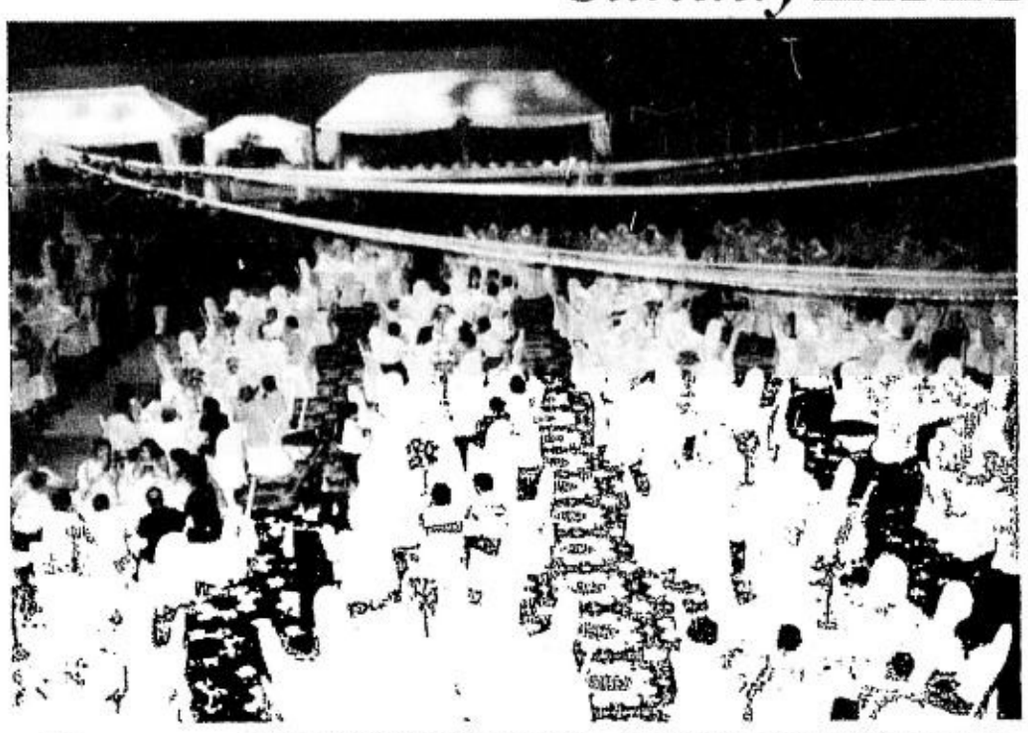
To this day, I remain amazed at how love would grow out of the wings of a military aircraft. May bride and the groom be reminded of this beautiful poem by Capt. Giemel Espino:

To land a dream
Align your whole heart and soul
To a runway of a beautiful dream.
Glide about 85 percent of your concentration
Then level off with eyes focusing in one direction
But when the crosswind of anxiety still touches you
Do not forget to fly the aileron of faith
And the right rudder of a patience
For a smooth touchdown to a runway of a beautiful dream.

THE COUPLE with their parents

WITH CG PAF Lt. Gen. Benjamin Defensor Jr., AFP Chief of Staff Roy Cimatu and Air Defensor Commander Maj. Gen. Nemesio Sigaya

An out-of-town wedding can double as a holiday for the couple and their guests



AN ELEGANT wedding in Cebu, like this one at the Waterfront, is not synonymous to spending a fortune.

Go south, young bride

From page D1

"Holding your wedding outside Manila is definitely cheaper," says Marco Protacio, director for food and beverage of the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel (1, Salinas Drive, Lahug; tel. [032] 232-6888).

The hotel last week held its four-day bridal fair, "Weddings at the Waterfront," with a motley of events that included exhibits of wedding suppliers, bridal symposia, an installation of wedding gowns worn by illustrious Cebuana brides, and fashion shows that featured the Queen City's most eligible men and women and the latest in bridal fashion from Cebu and Manila's top designers.

Protacio, who trained and taught at Les Roches in Switzerland, says there are innumerable advantages to having your wedding in Cebu. WCCH has the usual wedding packages offered by five-star hotels. The big difference is that the amenities included are itemized so there's room for changes as the couple wishes. The hotel also has in-house wedding coordinators to oversee the details of the affair—at no extra cost, as the service is included in the packages.

Even WCCH's per-person rates are much lower. An elegant feast can be had starting at P450 net per. A similar setup can set back couples at P800++ in hotels in Manila.

Wise spenders

"Cebuanos are wise spenders compared to Manilans. They always want to get their

GO/ p.D4

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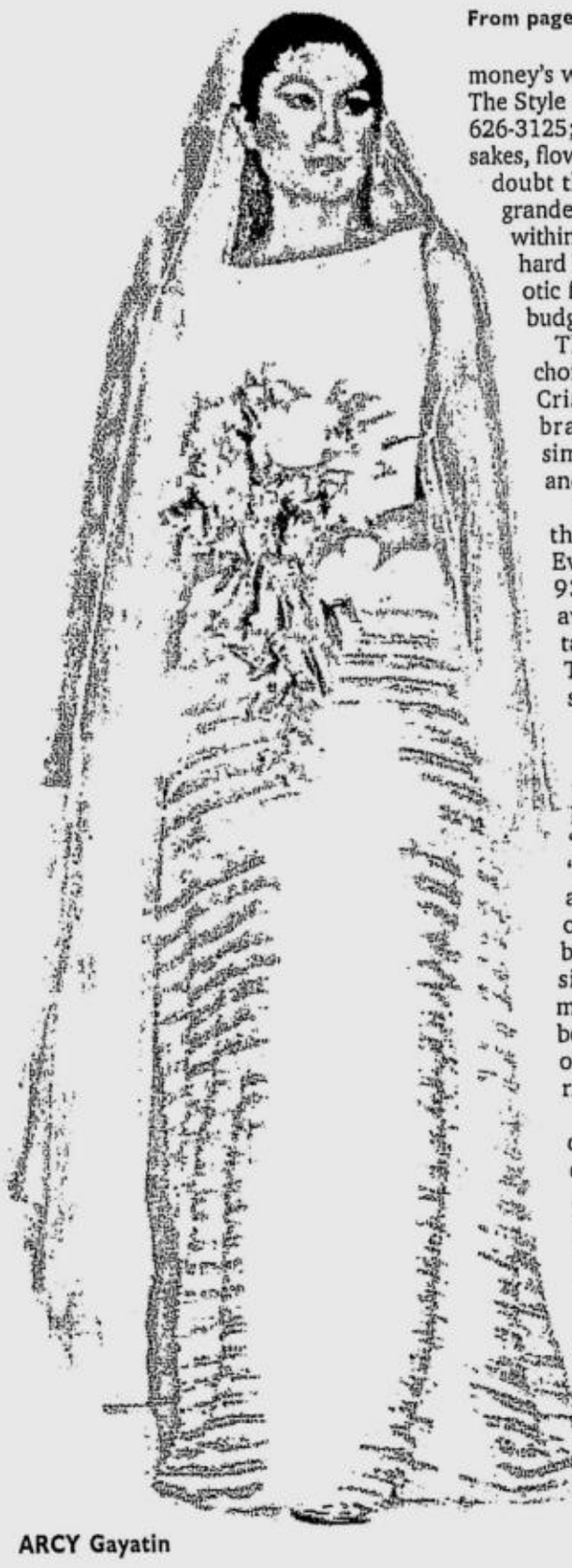
Go south, young bride

From page D3



ARCY Gayatin

money's worth," says Sheila Ruiz, owner of The Style and Accents Boutique (tel. [0917] 626-3125; [032] 412-8575), supplier of keepsakes, flowers and invites. "But you can never doubt their sense of style. They hold the grandest of weddings but they work on it within a budget," she says. "It's sometimes hard because they want the imported exotic flowers, but when you ask for their budget, you'll be surprised," she laughs.

The same can be said about their choice of wedding cakes, echoes Maria Cristina Rivera, Red Ribbon's Cebu branch supervisor. "They want it simple. They're more after the taste and quality of the cake," she says.

"But they're also getting trendier than ever," says wedding planner Evan Rigor Singco (tel. [0917] 360-9334; [032] 341-0188). "They're aware of the latest in styles—the invitations, the keepsakes and what-not. They're particular even with the smallest detail," she says.

Bride beautiful

The fashion show that showcased the bridal creations of 14 of Cebu and Manila's design geniuses was called "Sposabella," which is Italian for "beautiful bride." The gowns were all about romance, pure reflections of the joys of anticipated wedded bliss. The lines were clean and simple, soft and fluid. Embellishments were minimal, some with beaded bodice and hemlines—a mix of the favored classics with just the right touch of the contemporary.

Cebu brides have elegant and classic tastes even in their wedding ensembles, says Cebu designer Oj Hofer. So except for the runways, he has never done an avant-garde wedding gown for a Cebuana.

For this lot who put great value in their money but want to stand out in designer frock nonetheless, Hofer says a gown can come as low as P30,000 sans embellishments.

DITAS Rodriguez

PHILIP Rodriguez

OJ Hofer

JUDE Elardo

JOJO Romoff

Holiday

Unlike in Manila where a wedding is all but a day-long event, holding it in Cebu could mean a holiday not only for the couple but also for the entire wedding party.

"The celebration is longer when you opt to do your wedding out of town," says Shella Laxa, WCCH's director for sales and marketing.

WCCH, with its imposing castle-like structure that overlooks the city, turrets and all, is a favorite venue for weddings between Cebu locals and foreigners. It is then natural for them to offer big room-rate discounts for the wedding guests, like those who come from overseas.

Cebuanos want their weddings to be elegant, says Protacio, but you can't expect them to capriciously brandish their pocketbooks. "Which should explain why they're rich," he adds. And which should dispel any misgivings about having a grand wedding in the Queen City without blowing all your savings. Any couple who's worth their impending vows of lifetime commitment to each other should keep that in mind.

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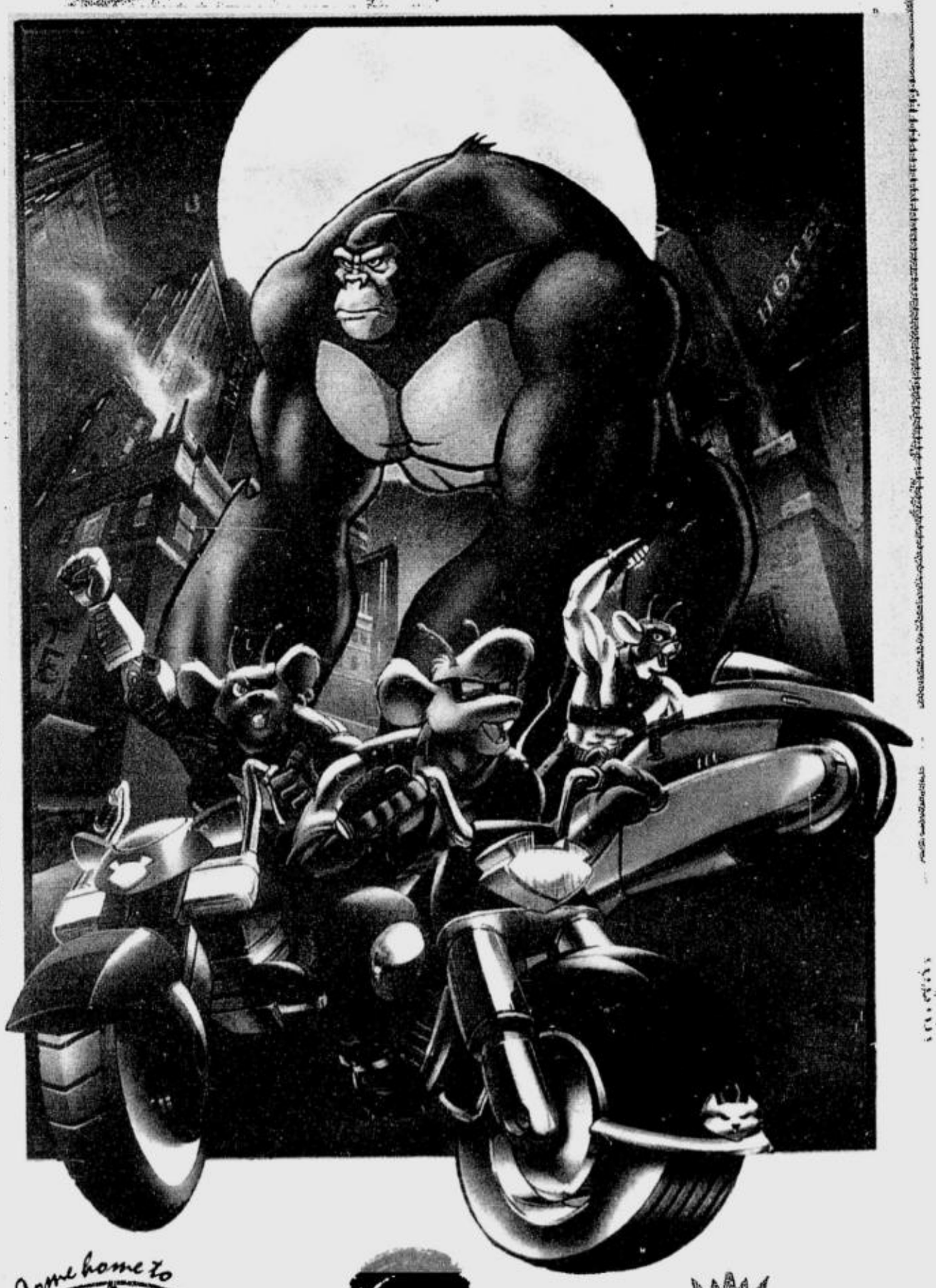

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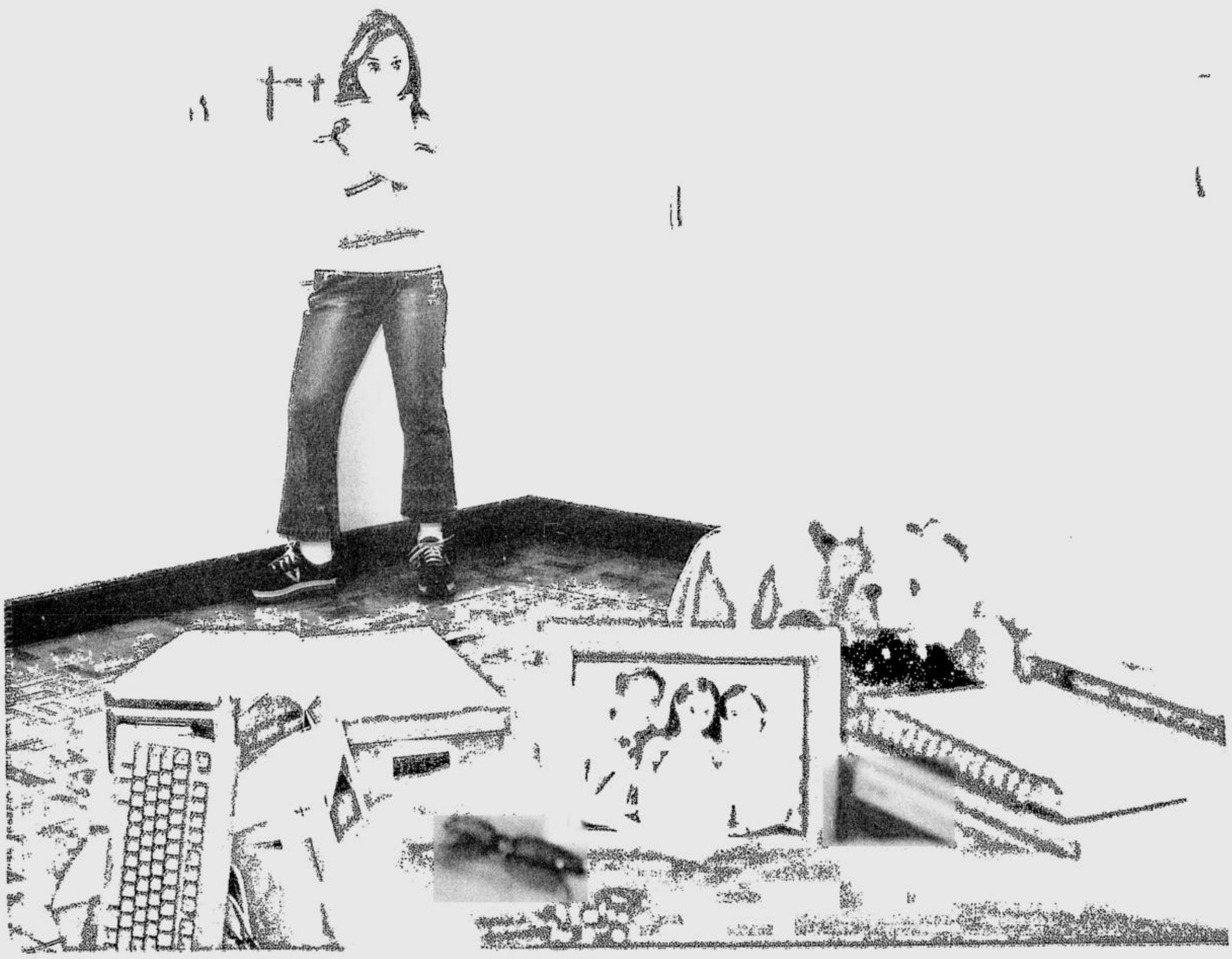

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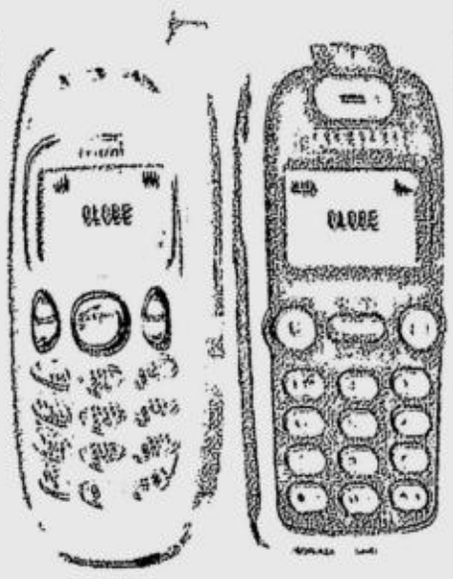

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Milestones

We are accepting announcements of weddings, engagements and debuts. Send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least one month before the wedding at the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

MENDOZA-MIRANDA

Carl Adrian G. Mendoza, son of engineer **Edward** and **Monica Mendoza**, will exchange vows with **Katherine Miranda**, daughter of engineer **Ruben** and **Zenaida Miranda**, on July 13 at St. James the Great Parish in Alabang. Reception will follow at Peninsula Manila.

Kathy will wear a champagne-gold silk organza gown with beadwork on the hemline by **Letlet Veloso**. It will be encrusted with Swarovski crystals and glass beads with a cathedral train. A tiara for headpiece and an illusion tulle for her veil will complete the ensemble. Emil Buencamino Photography will document the event while Jun Encarnacion Salon for Men and Women will do the bride's hair and makeup. Wedding coordinator is **Peaches Go**.

CASTELAR-JACOBO

Cirnon Paul S. Castelar, son of **Nephthali** and **Nonila Castelar**, will exchange marriage vows with **Clarissa Rina A. Jacobo**, daughter of **Ramiro** and **Raquel Jacobo**, on June 29 at Our Lady of the Brooks Catholic Church, Northbrook, Illinois, USA.

ORTEZA-TEVES

Engineer **Glenn Richard S. Orteza**, son of **Owen** and **Virginia Orteza**, and **Marie Therese P. Teves**, daughter of the late **Arthur G. Teves** and **Elvira P. Teves**, exchanged marriage vows on Jan. 12 at the Sacred Heart Parish, R.E.R. Cagayan de Oro City.

The bride and groom wore **Benjie S. Manuel** creations. The bridal entourage wore ensembles in lilac. Reception was held at Pryce Plaza Hotel Ballroom, Cagayan de Oro City.

VENERACION GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

National Artist for Music **Andrea Veneracion** renewed her wedding vows on June 1 with Dr. **Felipe Veneracion** at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Pasay City where they got married 50 years ago. The reception was held at Via Mare Tektite Penthouse.

Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown featuring a specially embroidered baro in piña liniwan traced with rhinestones and gold caviar beads. The skirt was made from an Indian sari fabric in burnt gold with bugle beads.

AMOLATO-PELOBELLO

Nelson Amolato, son of **Emilia Arcon vda. de Amolato**, wed **Gina Pelobello**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Sabino Pelobello**, on June 8 at the Iglesia ni Cristo Chapel, San Antonio, Marinduque.

The bride wore a shantung silk gown embellished with crystal beads. The gown and the groom's barong were executed by **Ruby Celestial** of Celestial Personality.

GUINTU-REYES

Analisa Reyes, only daughter of Mr. and Ms **Raymundo Reyes** of Plaridel, Bulacan, will wed **Vergel Guintu**, son of Mr. and Ms **Antonio Guintu**, on June 30 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in San Fernando, Pampanga.

The bride will wear an ivory wedding gown in Swiss lace and duchess satin, embellished with Swarovski crystals, pearls and beads. A tiara will hold her illusion tulle veil. **Armand Esguerra** designed the gowns for the bride and her entourage.

MONTESA DEBUT

Angelica Waje Montesa, daughter of lawyer **Rodel** and **Emily Montesa**, celebrated her 18th birthday on June 8 at Manila Midtown Hotel. She is a biology student of Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila. **Larry Z. Zuniga Jr.** designed her gown.

REYES DEBUT

Maria Jonnabel Mapula Reyes, daughter of **Ben** and **Jocelyn Reyes**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on July 13 at the Maynila Ballroom of Manila Hotel. Jonna is a consistent honor student at Coral Reef Magnet School (Visual and Performing Arts Academy) in Miami, Florida.

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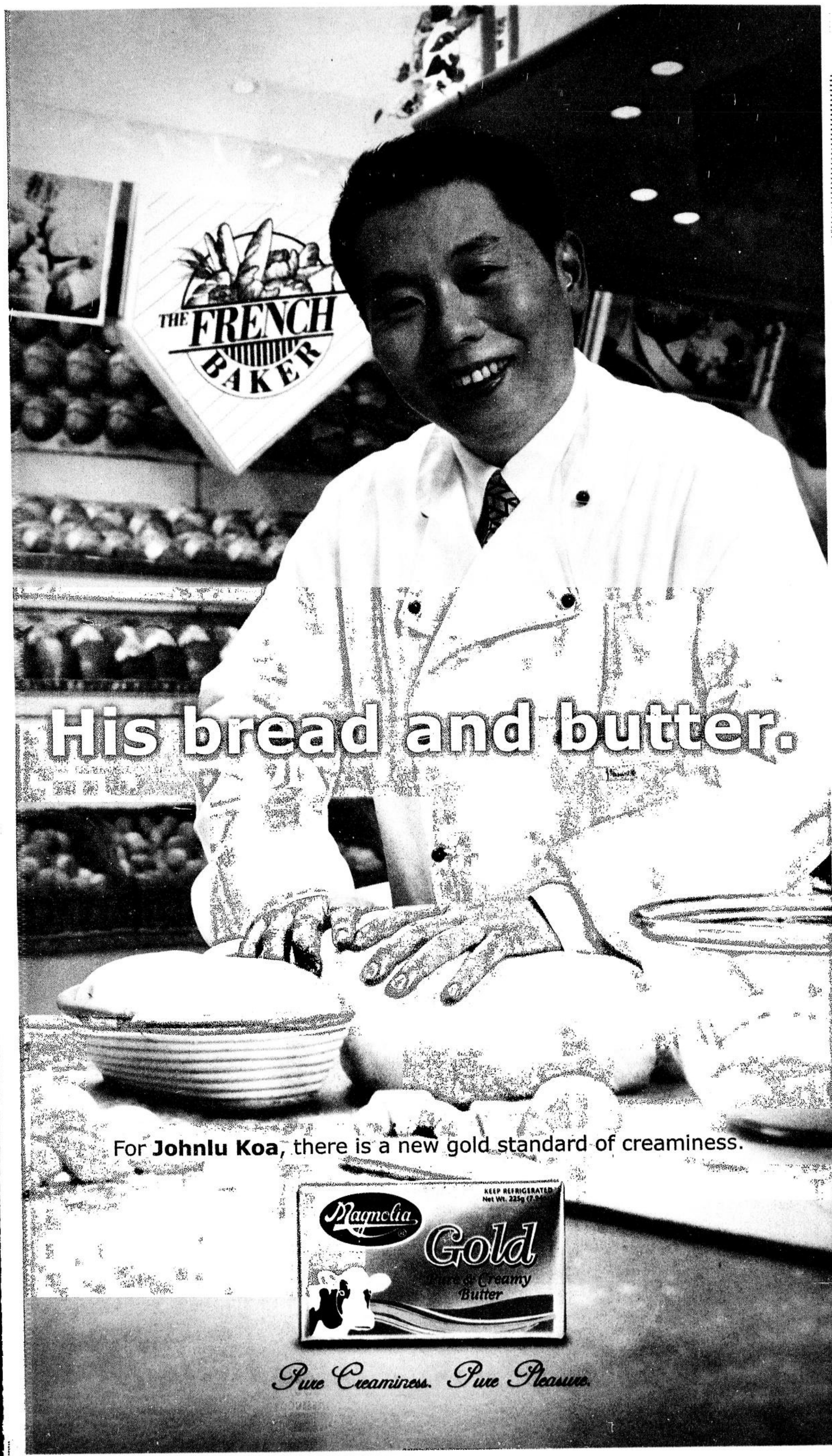
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

A CHARMING shop

Big fun at Little Tokyo

By Lolita Delgado Fansler
Contributor
Photos by Roger Carpio

IT WAS an eyesore for many years. I noticed it whenever I was on Pasong Tamo on my way to Pasay Road. On the left side of the road, beside Bangus Restaurant, I would see a narrow dirt and gravel driveway leading to a roofless warehouse of dilapidated trucks and vans. A "rusty metal cemetery," I called it.

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This architect had a recurring dream. He wanted to recreate the old Japanese town of his youth. One day he chanced upon this piece of neglected land immediately behind Creekside. He looked for the owner and offered to develop the area. He agreed to do everything: design and build structures around an inner quadrangle, as well as find the tenants.

The architect transformed this open-air bodega into a charming little oasis in the midst of nondescript cement structures still awaiting upscale modernization. On Nov. 21, 1999, it was inaugurated with a traditional Japanese ceremony. *Mochi* (a sweetened, pounded-rice delicacy) was thrown to guests from a wooden tower in the middle of a courtyard.

When I first went to Little Tokyo, the image of my first visit to the Japanese capital in the mid-'50s flashed in my mind. It was déjà vu—the courtyard decorated with grass and bonsai plants, white stones and gray rocks; the cloth *noren*, with characters naming the small shops and restaurants, hanging over doors.

Right place

I knew I was in the right place on Pasong Tamo when I spotted a short, concave red wooden bridge, and a tall, red gateway, similar to a *tori-i* leading to a Shinto temple. Then I read "Little Tokyo" on the topmost horizontal bar.

Past this Otemon Gate (mon means "gate"), the Kaminarmon stands at the other entrance on Fernando St., in front of the basement-parking ramp between McDonald's and Makati Cinema Square. There, I found the *shirokabe* leading to Little Tokyo strangely familiar: low, white buildings with tiled roofs on either side of a long, narrow walkway, with lamp posts and plants lined up like geishas ready to bow in greeting. The dirt road leading to the depot was now paved with brick.

"My concept is a Japanese compound, Edo Tokugawa time, before Japan was Europeanized," Yasuyuki Kido explained to me when I first met the dreamer wearing a Japanese *hanten* over his T-shirt and gray trousers. I nodded in agreement. This is not the Tokyo of today.

Mr. Kido led me to the courtyard and pointed out the Yagura Tower. Because traditional Japanese homes were made of bamboo

BIG/ p.E2

POCKET garden near shop entrance

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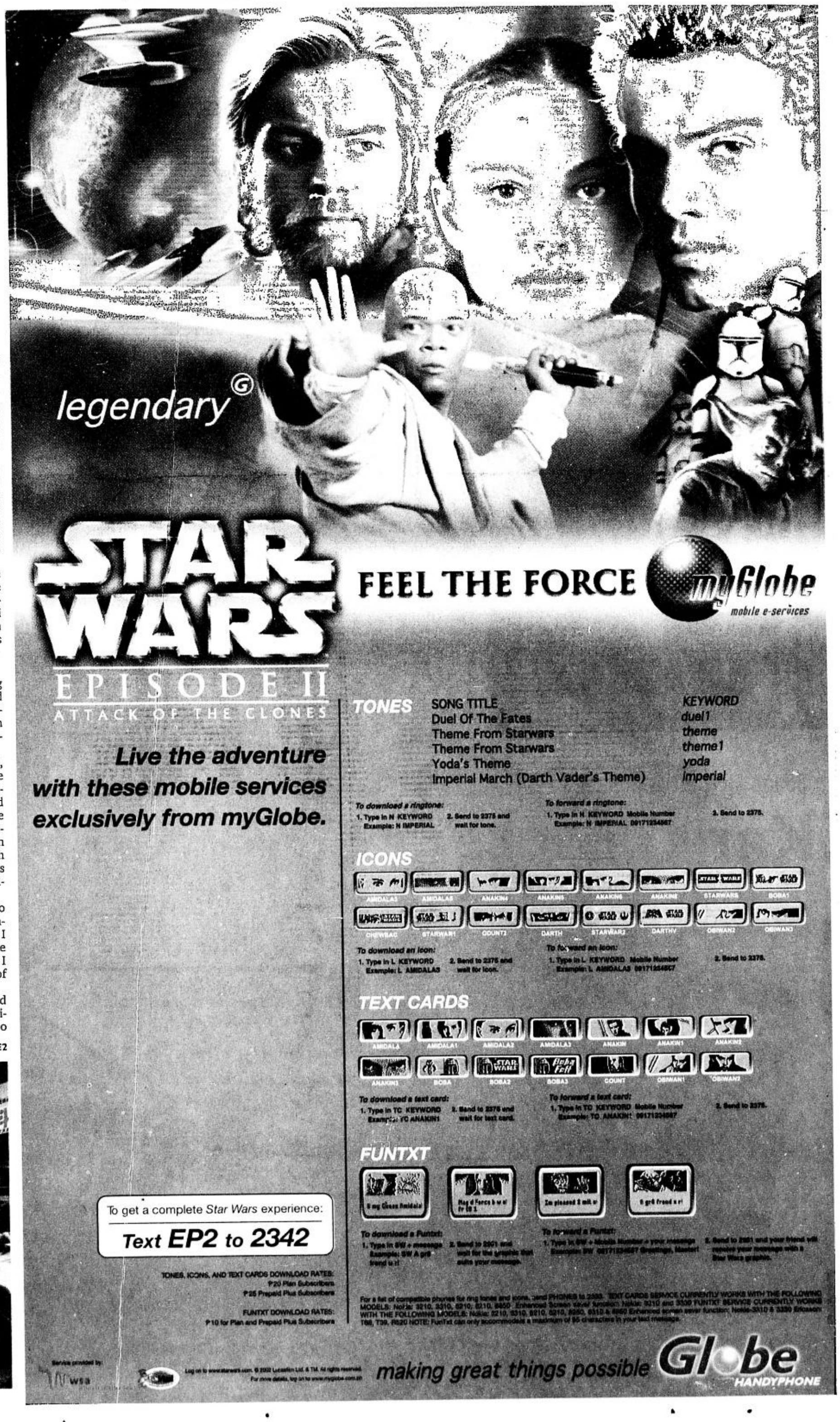

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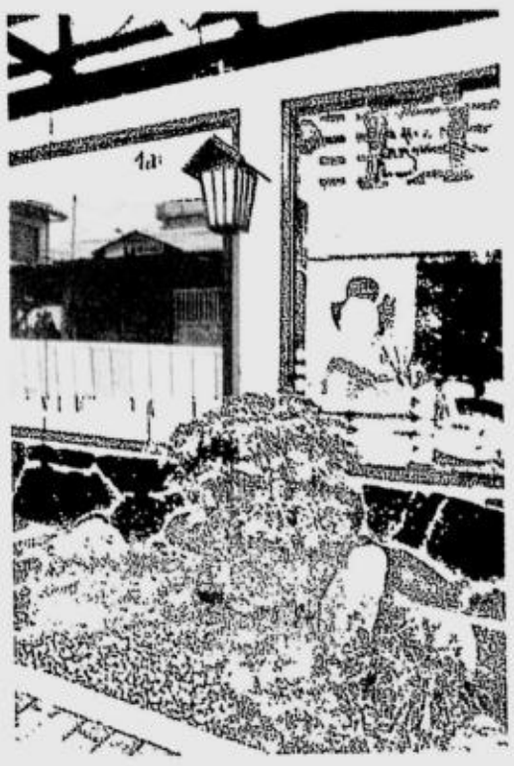
Sunday LIFESTYLE



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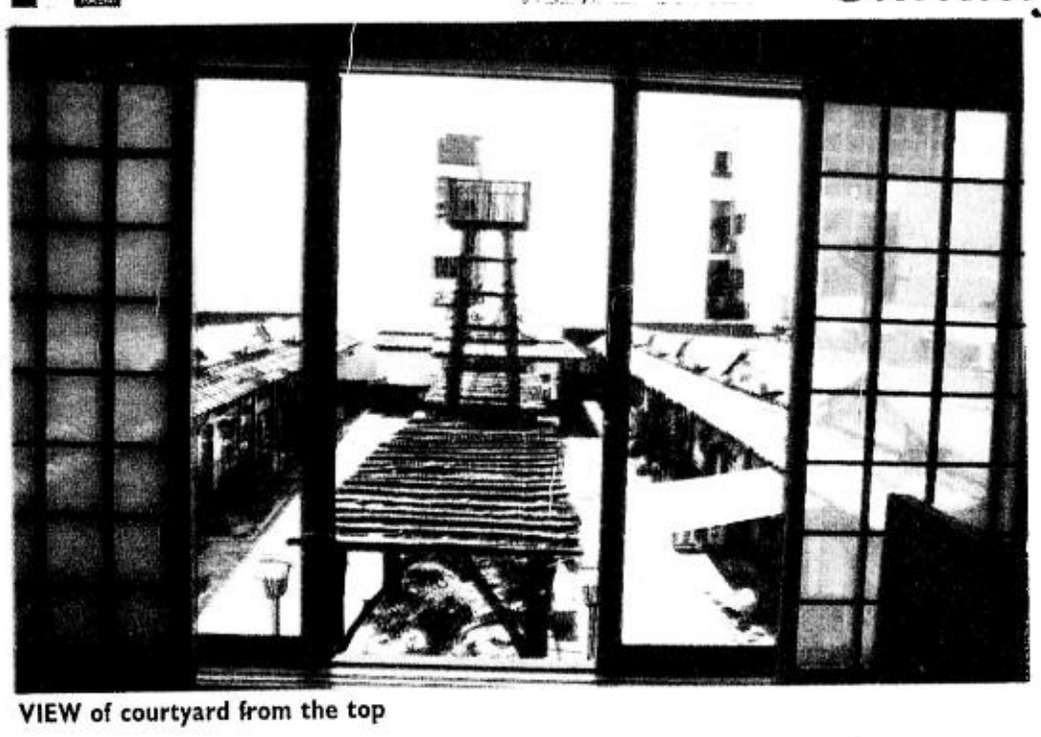

VIEW of courtyard from the top

Big fun at Little Tokyo

From page E1

and paper, every village had a man standing on a tower to watch out for fires.

I looked around. Just like in traditional Japan, the structures and the garden looked tidy, compact and manicured. The signs painted on the walls of the little shops and restaurants, the hanging red lanterns, and the tiny wood and paper "houses" on the ground, had Japanese characters. Later I spotted photos of the food with their prices: P50, P80, P100, P120, P150, P200; and the occasional Roman letters.

"Everything here is made in the Philippines: roof tiles, wood and paper lanterns, bonsai plants, river stones, wood. Construction workers, all Filipino," Mr. Kido boasted softly.

Home

During its first year of operation, all the patrons in Little Tokyo were Japanese. It was their home away from home. In this pocket of Japan, they could sit on the benches and chat among themselves, eat in any of seven restaurants, get their familiar barbershop service, buy comfort food in two groceries and necessities in a souvenir shop. All at very reasonable, certainly not Tokyo prices. Everything is authentic because the tenants are all Japanese, married to Filipinas; except for Mr. Kido, who has remained a bachelor all these years.

When I took the family to Little Tokyo for dinner, seven of us sat around a tabletop made from a solid slab of wood cut from one huge tree. This was in the Miyakodori, which specializes in yakitori.

The next time I returned, we were three couples, and we restaurant-hopped (highly recommended for groups of not more than six persons). First we went to Genroku for some warm sake and sushi, which we enjoyed under a red umbrella. Then we went to Niko-Niko where we chose to sit on floor pillows (traditional Japanese; no holes for our legs under the low table, and no back rests connected to the pillows). There we had their specialty: chanko nabe, much like Chinese shabu-shabu, but served with sesame seeds in each of our bowls. The broth was ambrosial!

While drinking our sake, eight young Japanese men in pale aqua pants and jackets came and plopped themselves around the other two tables in our eating area. They looked like they had just come from work. One began texting, three watched sumo wrestling on the TV in a corner of the room, and the rest read Japanese magazines or talked. Only the waitresses reminded us that we were in Manila.

Afterwards we walked around the courtyard to check out the products sold in the shops. Two of us ladies zoomed in on some lovely lacquered bowls and trays, while the men grabbed magnum-sized bottles of sake to take back home as "souvenirs" of our fun evening.

'Just good'

The food needed time to settle in our tummies while we discussed whether to have tempura in Robata Fuji, teppanyaki in Matsuya, ramen in Tsurukemedo, or *yakiniku* (grill) in Jujutei. In the end, our consciences, hips and waistlines won. We settled for fresh fruits, creatively sliced, in Miyakodori. Topped off with more sake, of course.

We think we've selected the right restaurant abroad, if most of the patrons inside are locals instead of tourists. When we went to Little Tokyo last week, most of the people we saw were Japanese. In fact, in Niko-Niko, we noticed a cabinet filled with sake bottles labeled with names like Mr. Saito, Yamada, Watanabe and Mr. Tanaka.

When I had first gone to Little Tokyo to interview Mr. Kido, I peeped into the barbershop. The three customers were Japanese. One was getting his hair shampooed, his head facing the basin. Another was having a neck massage. The third was watching a Japanese show on television.

I asked Mr. Kido what was unique about a Japanese barbershop. He paused, thinking. Then he shrugged his shoulder and smiled. "It's just good."

This is what we feel about finding a little bit of Tokyo—of a hundred years ago—in the heart of Makati. The whole experience—ambiance, food and shopping, moderate prices—is good, and certainly worth repeating.

To get to Little Tokyo, if you're coming from Buendia, spot the entrance along Pasong Tamo just before Makati Cinema Square. Another gate is almost directly in front of the basement garage entrance of the Makati Cinema Square. Both entrances have traditional Japanese red gates. Contact Yasuyuki Kido, 819-5008 to 09; Little TokyoU-I 2277 Pasong Tamo, Makati City; and e-mail ykido@skyinet.net.

OASIS of grass, bonsai, rocks

LANTERNS and *noren* hanging over restaurant door

A piece of Japan thrives in a nondescript corner of Makati and gives old-timers and those with a penchant for things Japanese a feel of the real thing

BRIDGE and gateway to another world

A ROW of shops and restaurants evokes Tokyo in the 1950s

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PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

FOR TRAVELERS from Manila who would take the ferry from Lucena, Quezon, the bigger-than-life-size statue of Our Lady of Biglang Awa in the middle of Tablas Strait is a welcome sight. Marinduque Gov. Carmencita Reyes had the image made and also had a viewing area constructed on top of a hill overlooking Balanacan Port.

I was brought there by Patria Jacinto and Albine Padua, who are from Boac, on May 11, a day after the feast of Our Lady of Biglang Awa, patroness of Marinduque. With us were Tita Itchon and Nellie Hidalgo.

I was there to give thanks to Our Lady of Biglang Awa for helping me with my eyesight. She was known to have given back the sight of Justina Manubay, also known as Tandang Uste, who was born blind.

In 1897, when Justina was 35 years old, she promised the Virgin that she would serve her in a special way by praying fervently to her day and night in front of the church where her image was enthroned in a stone niche.

Tandang Uste received her eyesight in 1918 when she was 60 years old. Besides Sta. Lucia, you can now pray to Our Lady of Biglang Awa, if you are having problems with your vision.

Spread of the devotion

I first learned of Our Lady of Biglang Awa when Tita Pat Jacinto brought me to Boac in 1995 with my friend Dulce Festin-Baybay whose mother, Remedios Festin, lives there. We went by PAL then, but on this second visit, we took Asian Spirit, which was all right. I learned from Auring Pitero Majaba that the Virgin would leave her altar and would later have *amorseco* stuck to her vestments.

After the miracle of Tandang Uste, the devotion slowly spread all over the province of Boac and nearby Quezon. Our Lady of Biglang Awa Foundation was formed in the late '80s, with members living in Metro Manila holding a nine-day novena on the second week of November every year. The foundation also gives donation for the schooling of seminarians in the diocese.

In 1995, when we were there for the first time, then Bishop Rafael Lim blessed the new shrine of the Virgin, which was built outside the church. This has become a pilgrim place.

Those who wish to have a novena can write me, but please enclose a self-addressed envelope with two P5 stamps.

This year's fiesta celebrated the 24th anniversary of Boac as a diocese. The current bishop is Most Rev. Jose Oliveros, while the new rector of the shrine is Fr. Rene Sapugan, who succeeded Msgr. Ramon Magdurinlang.

Monastery of Poor Clares

There is a story going around that when Bishop Lim passed away, a letter written by him shortly before his death and addressed to then Secretary Robert Aventajado, asking the official to build a monastery for the Poor Clares, was found.

The secretary undertook the task and donors were able to put up a magnificent chapel for the Poor Clares as well as a building where guests could be received and where the nuns stay. But the building of the dormitory for the Sisters had to be stopped due to lack of funds.

The monastery is located in Barrio Bantaoyan in Boac. The present superior is Sr. Myrna Arollado, who was a civil engineer when she entered.

Capturing a butterfly

In Gasan town, one can find a butterfly nursery run by Emer del Mundo Sevilla, whose husband is Dr. Carmelito Sevilla. Here, one can capture a butterfly, make a wish and let it go. This practice was taken from a native American legend. I took it seriously. I made a wish and let the butterfly go, watching it fly to the sky.

It was from this nursery that Cesar Montano and Sunshine Cruz ordered 600 pairs of butterflies for their wedding. If you need butterflies for your wedding, call Sheilah Sevilla at 578-7013 or (0919) 608-2693.

Our Lady of the Abandoned

Since we have been writing about the Our Lady of the Abandoned, patroness of Marikina City, more people are going to the church for Mass. Tom Joven from Bacolor, Pampanga, was the ecclesiastical art restorer of the image.

What appeared in my column on May 5 was the original face of the image. The photo on the front page of the INQUIRER on May 12 was of the restored image.

Talking about his work, Tom says that he is always guided by an unseen force, which he attributes to the Holy Spirit, when restoring images. Not having any formal training in restoration, Tom considers his craft a gift.

Tom's ancestor Don Juan Joven donated the image of the Our Lady of Guadalupe to the San Guillermo Church in Bacolor. Tom is the *recamadero* of the image. He also restored the image of the Nuestra Señora de la Consolacion y Correa enthroned in San Agustin Church.

Cathedral in Antipolo

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Hinulugang Taktak, Antipolo, is building a cathedral to honor the Virgin and, at the same time, to be a proper residence of Bishop Crisostomo Yalung.

Antipolo novena

The three-month-long novenas to Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage will end on July 9. The new rector of the shrine is Fr. Eric Salazar, who was installed at 6 p.m. on June 4.

Marian pilgrimage

Economy Travel is organizing a Marian pilgrimage on June 20-July 10 that would visit the shrines of Our Lady of All Nations, Our Lady of the Poor, Our Lady with the Golden Heart, Miraculous Medal in Paris, Notre Dame Cathedral, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Peñafrancia, Our Lady of Fatima; the Church of the Bleeding Heart and St. Francis of Assisi Basilica. Those interested can call Flor or Roger at 526-4497 or 302-2519.

Our Lady of Manaoag visit

The pilgrim image of Our Lady of Manaoag has been brought down from Pangasinan. Schedule: Immaculate Conception Parish, Sta. Cruz, Laguna, until June 9; Parish of Infant Jesus and St. Mark, Infanta, Quezon, June 9-16.

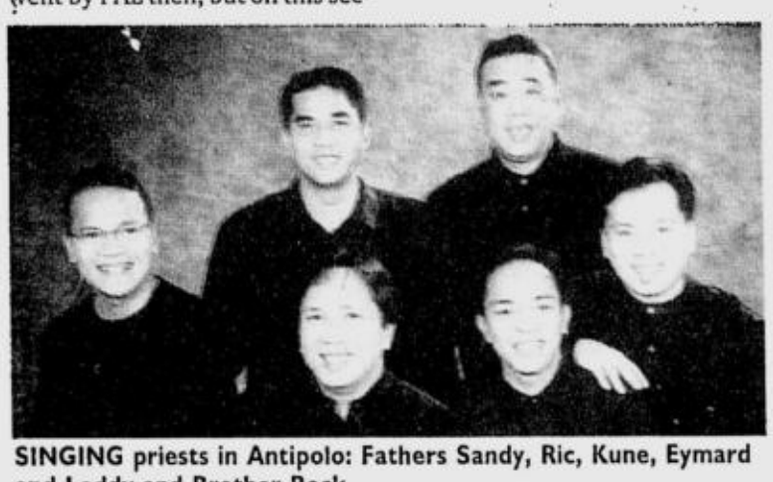
St. Anthony procession

A grand procession of 11 Franciscan saints headed by St. Anthony de Padua will be held after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on June 13; feast of St. Anthony, at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in Kanlaon, QC.

The image of Our Lady of Pilgrims from St. Anthony Shrine will join the procession. A Mass at 10:45 a.m. will be officiated by Bishop Teodoro Buhain.

There will also be a Triduum of Masses in Ermita Church in honor of St. Anthony de Padua on June 10-12 at 12:15 p.m. and 6 p.m. Fiesta Mass will be on June 12 at 12:15 p.m.

OUR Lady of Biglang Awa, patroness of Marinduque



SINGING priests in Antipolo: Fathers Sandy, Ric, Kune, Eymard and Loddy and Brother Rock

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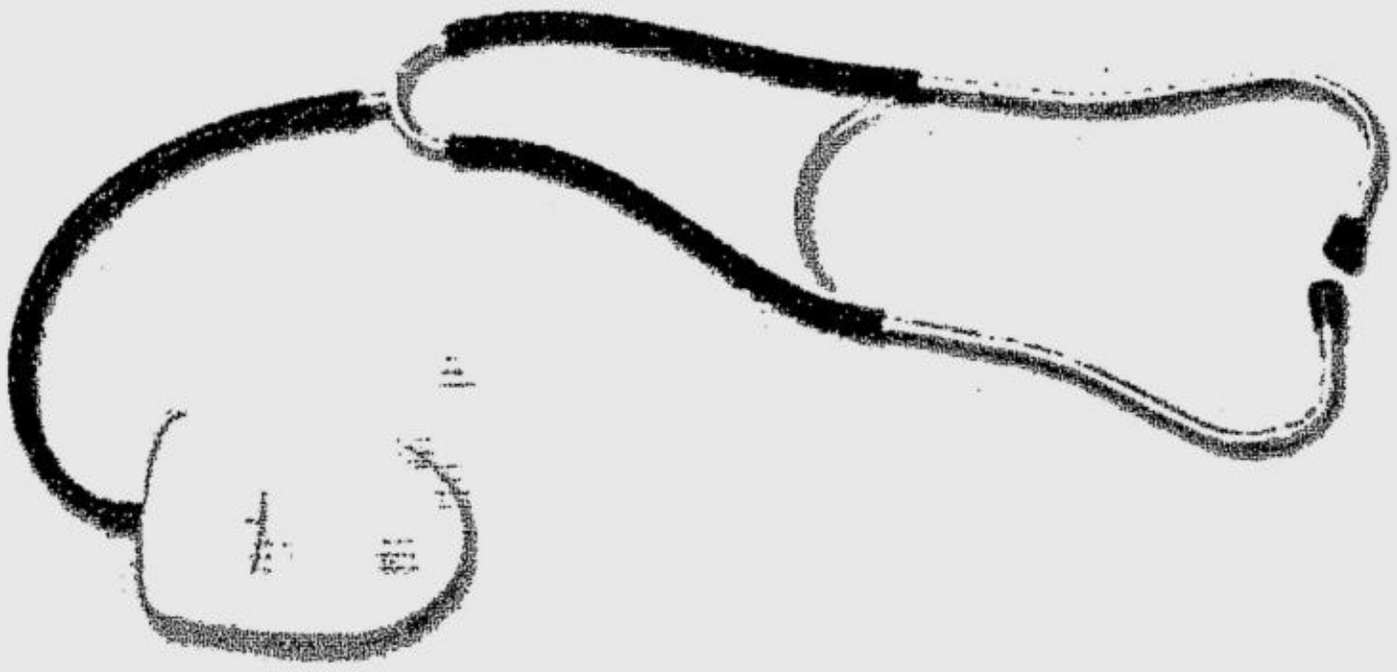

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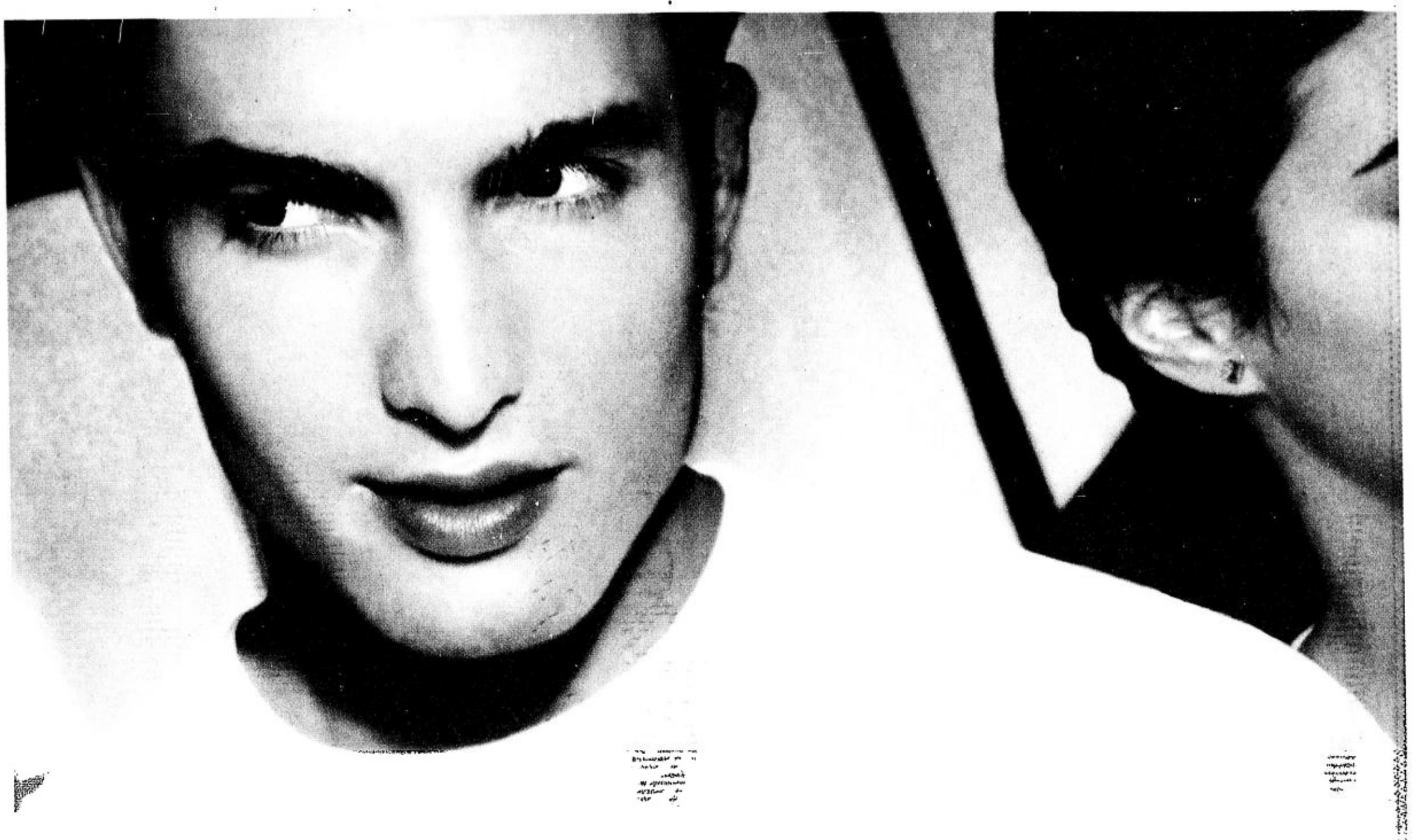

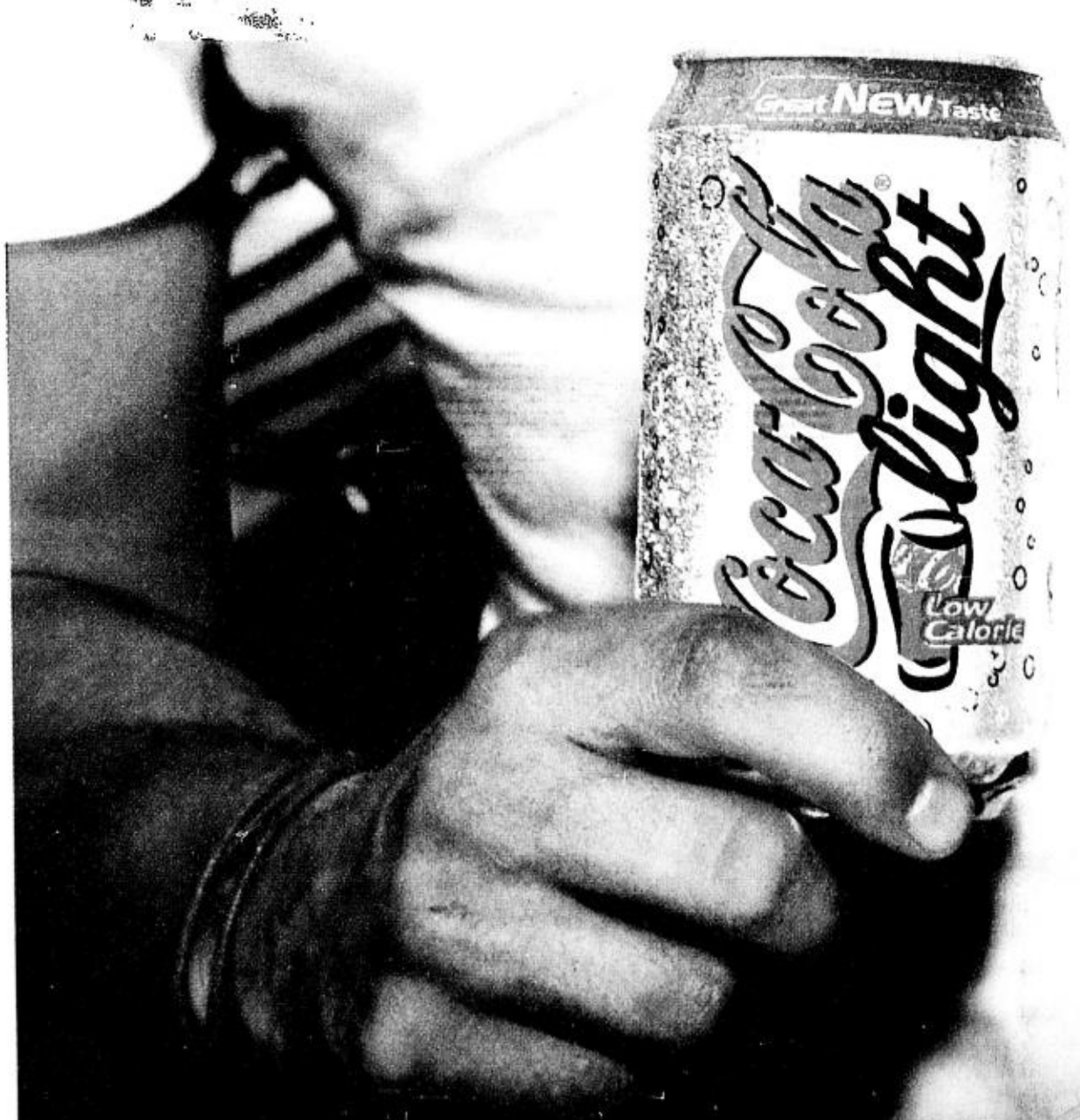

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Escape

Hit the mall, Jack

More travelers are lured to the US by the shop-till-you-drop prospect

By Cathy Babao Guballa

THERE is a joke among airport personnel in the United States that if you're looking for the check-in counters for the Manila flights, just follow the trail of the Balikbayan boxes.

Filipinos, indeed, are inveterate shoppers and the Balikbayan box has become their symbol. But they are not alone.

In the aftermath of Sept. 11, it was most surprising that the most important element of the travel experience for US residents is shopping, despite the bad economy.

A New York Times report says that the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota, attracts more visitors annually than Disney World, Graceland and the Grand Canyon combined. All over the US, huge, state-of-the-art malls are either being renovated or built. The Mall at Millenia in Orlando, Florida, promises to be the shopping destination for tourists in that part of the Mainland. Fashion Show in Las Vegas is undergoing a multimillion dollar redevelopment that will make it one of the largest American malls, and it promises to have the most powerful fashion anchor lineup in the world.

Cause not effect

The Shopping Traveler, a study conducted by the Travel Industry of America (TIA), shows that for 51 percent of travelers, shopping was the primary or secondary purpose of one or more of their trips taken last year. It was commissioned by Taubman Centers, Inc., a real-estate investment trust that develops and manages shopping centers throughout the US.

Travelers who shop spend an average of $333 during their trip with 22 percent spending more than $500. According to the survey, shopping travelers most often spend money on clothes or shoes for themselves or others rather than on souvenirs.

At the recent TIA Powwow in New Orleans, Louisiana, William Norman, TIA president and CEO, said the survey confirmed a change in the perception back in the mid-1980s that the so-called "traditional" travel industry was a competitor, not a partner, of retail outlets, shopping centers and malls for consumer dollars.

"Now it can be submitted that shopping is a cause, not an effect, of the decision to travel and the travel experience," he said.

According to the report, shopping is the most popular of common activities for US travelers. About 91-million people or 63 percent of travelers in 2000 did some shopping on a trip. Travelers most often turn to people they know and hotels where they are staying to obtain information about shopping.

Interestingly, 59 percent of shopping travelers obtain information about shopping areas from friends, family or co-workers. Another finding is that shopping is a top priority. Nearly four in 10 shopping travelers agree that a trip is not complete without going shopping during the trip.

The report also says that traditional enclosed shopping centers or malls are the most popular places to shop in a trip. Half of those surveyed shop at major downtown shopping districts or outdoor "main street" shopping

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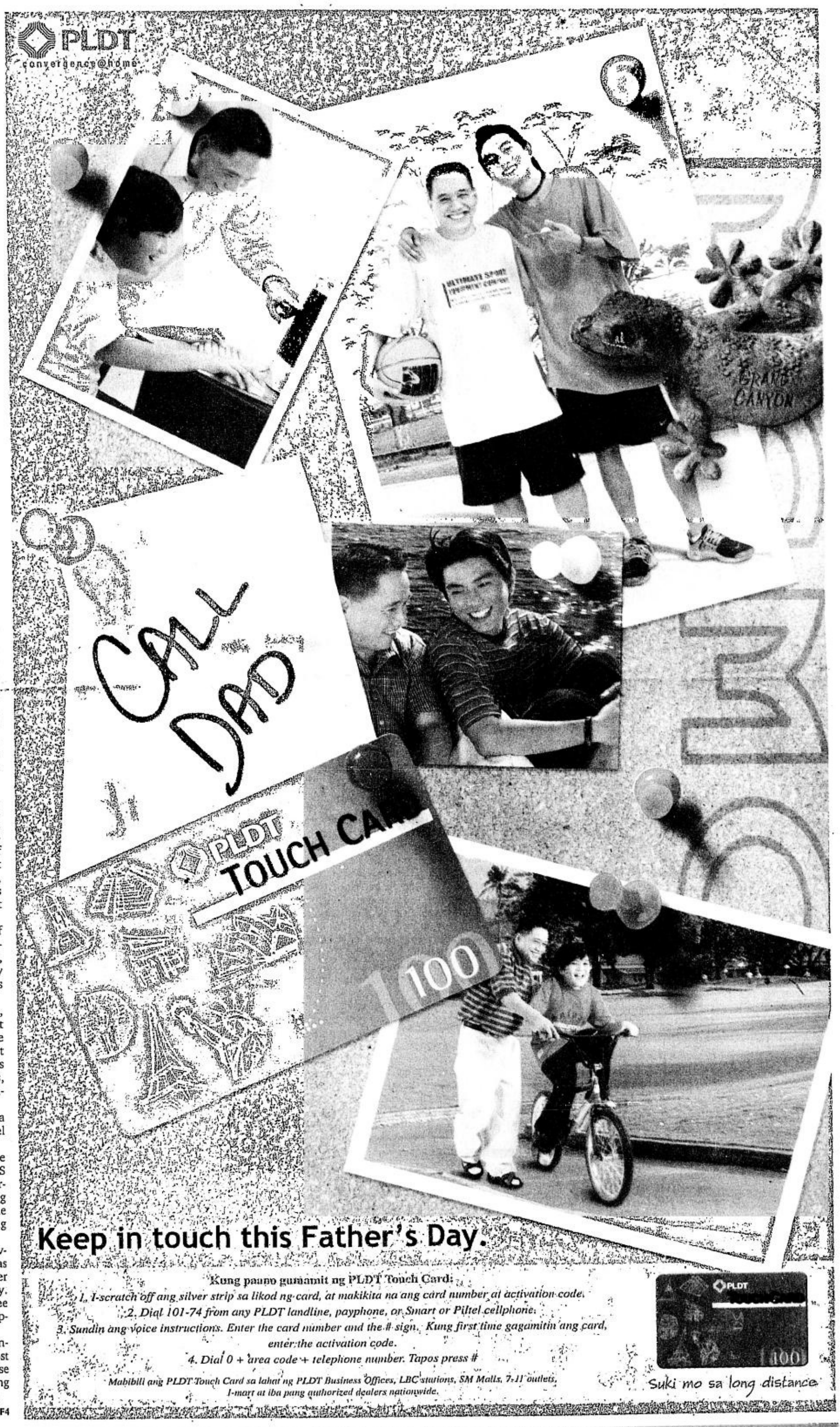


TRAVEL

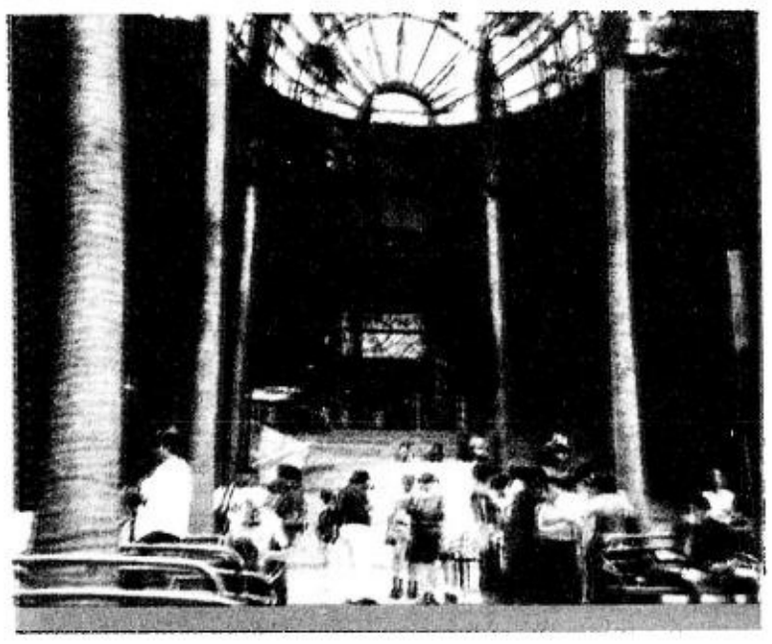
Editor Rosario A. Garcellano

Visit to hallowed ground

FIREMEN'S helmets, reminder of the tragedy AP

By Alegria Albano-Imperial

I LOOKED on a shallow dish of dirt, raked and dug out, and still seething. From where I stood at the portico of St. Peter's Church on Barclay Street across from what used to be the World Trade Center, I gazed and gaped incredulous. How can it seem so small, so nothing, now?



AT THE Winter Garden

That now hallowed ground I had once walked on, eyes turned to where the twin towers held the sky, was raw like a vulture's leftover meal—the vulture that had zipped into it from the sky.

The smell of burning still tarnished the air: sharp and pungent. Thin spirals of smoke still seeped off the ground where the dying has not ended. There was a stench in the downtown train I thought must be someone's mess or, as the friend I was with said, could be the cleaning agent used. And then I realized it was the stench of decaying flesh.

For the first time on this visit to New York, three months after the disaster that the world now calls by its date, September Eleven, I finally lived the nightmare.

I could not recognize turns on the streets I learned by heart a whole summer I lived in New York. I had to let go, and be led on by the steady stream of people, moving about in a daze like me. We have walked into a city that was pummeled, ripped and blown in parts; it felt strange.

The buildings around the World Trade Center, once glinting towers now scarred and wearing ashes, have turned old and looked haunted. Delis and coffee shops serving breakfast at 8:45 that morning have grown frost where they stood still. (In which of them had I once shared with a friend the tastiest sticky bun ever one morning we walked this far?) But I had yet to find the remains of that day.

We had stopped at every cross street that opened to Ground Zero, and hung our heads. We had stalled, holding back tears, where instant graves had blossomed on wrought iron fences or granite walls. The graves drew out the grief, and tears gave names to what were earlier anonymous faces. A wife to one of those still missing stumbled into a huddle, and crumbled to the ground, touching a framed picture adorned with ribbons now frayed and fading. She had visited this grave each day since. A brother to one still lost crept from behind us quietly planting another candle where what he lit last night was dying. He had no way of telling if his brother was among the dead; his brother was still missing like many who walked into that ordinary summer day but whose bodies have not been found.

A wind ruffled the pages of a letter a grandmother had pinned on a young woman's framed portrait, detailing how her oh-so-innocent two-year-old son regaled the family with stories of a visit to the zoo in last weekend's tearful dinner. A scrap of lined paper, bold scripts now blotted, carried a young boy's inspired poem on the heroic death of those he didn't personally know. The "graves" were now a mosaic of grief; none of us who strayed into them could stay around for long.

Memories of the nightmare played on. On these same streets thousands of wounded had limped, transformed by terror and grief. Some had lost their hair in the fire, others, half their faces. The sirens had screamed, flying through the night and days from then on.

New York congealed into a mass of the helpless hurt, the faceless who came to help, and the cops and firemen who gave their lives to others whom they had no chance to ask. Blood flowed from cut limbs, and also from veins held up for the taking. This city of spunk and internal faces broke into a weeping, sobbing, moaning humanity. We, who lived through the nightmare for whole days on end on television, could only imagine half the reality then.

From St. Peter's portico, we glued our eyes on those giant combs of steel, the cranes that moved clumsy marionette arms; the diggers had not stopped sifting for remains. They had gone deep underground, out of our sight. After this visit, when they hit what used to be the Cortland subway stop, five more bodies turned up. But where we huddled, necks craned toward Ground Zero on this visit, there was nothing else we could see out there. What I kept staring at instead, and like perhaps those strangers around me did, were spots on the ground that held memories, my own.

Through the haze of the silent grieving I shared with strangers around me, I combed for my own souvenirs from the ruins. I glimpsed my first in the steel skeletons of what was once the atrium, the Winter Garden. When it glinted under the autumn sun, I felt a leap in my breast.

For one whole summer in one of my New York visits, that garden with its palm trees and benches was a "beach" where friends and I picnicked on tiny packed lunches. We had seen a couple in a bridal entourage from Chinatown sashay from the marble steps, the bride's gauzy veil and train twirled and knotted on her arm, to pose for pictures. We had watched babies put to sleep on the benches, and toddlers let go of their carriage to crawl on the steps. We had sat beside someone who came to work on stuff he pulled out of a sagging backpack. We had walked here like most, to read the Sunday New York Times, and that ought to be the whole day.

I sought the South Tower in what was now a hollow span in the sky, and, with scrunched eyes, retraced my steps that last time I rode the escalator up to the lobby of the third floor (or was it the fourth)? It was on my birthday the year before. A friend and I had huffed first to St. Peter's for the noontime Mass, crashing into a side door, right off the subway stop, to the lower church. (When I walked up the portico on this visit, I could not recognize the church, except for the name; I did not know it was the oldest Roman Catholic Church in New York, or imagined it had a portico.)

That day was planned like this: From church, we would cross the street, skirt around Borders bookstore, cross the fountain between the towers, and slip through one of the South Tower's revolving doors to get tickets to a Broadway show (it was a birthday gift). I picked "Kiss me Kate" from the line-up of shows up for discount in the Tickits booth on that lobby.

The line had snaked when we got there. In the crawl, I feasted on the view from the glass windows that opened to the sky. (Was it from here I first saw the gothic spires of Trinity church rising delicately like a filigreed cone against the angular buildings around it?) Another line on the other side of the lobby had stretched its tail; the line was for those who wanted to fly up the elevator to view New York from the "top of the world." I had vowed to do that some other time. But I was sick the rest of that summer and did not go back.

I flew back to New York two days before Sept. 11, but friends drove me to Baltimore soon after I wheeled out my suitcase from the JFK International airport. We took the Verrazzano Narrows off the southern edge of Manhattan. The sky had its usual glorious New York glow, something really otherworldly on summer nights: the skyline seemed cut out against that sky, and the windows of skyscrapers, as always, back-lit.

I had traced with my eyes the rhythm of the tower tips on the sky, and decided how flawlessly it flowed: the Citicorp and IBM way down west, the Empire State, Chrysler, New York Met Life midtown, and the black towers of the World Trade Center on the southeastern end. Curving into Verrazzano, I thought that the towers had seemed within my arms' reach. My friends told me—a bit prophetically it later turned out—"Look at the towers for the last time, at least for now," and I did.

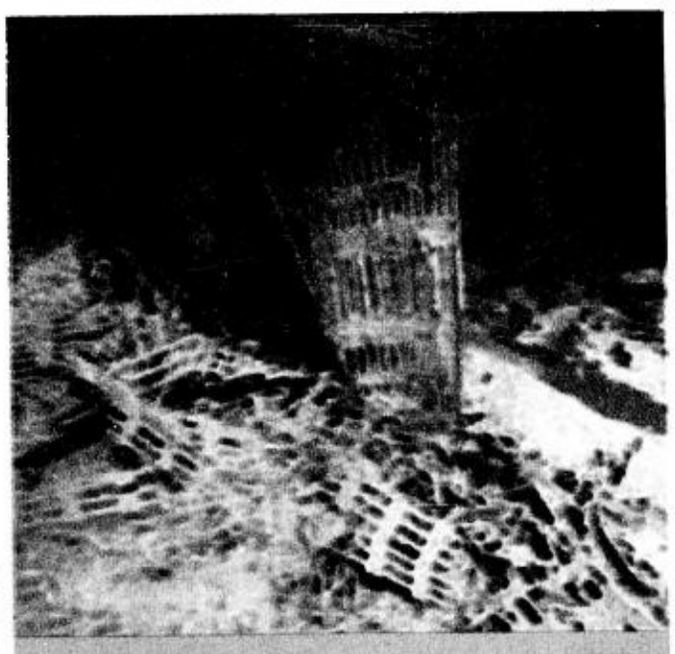
Two days later, over a bowl of breakfast cereal, I watched the North Tower spewing fire and oozing black smoke as an airplane the size of a dragonfly on my host's small television screen kept on its steady flight path into the South Tower. Before my eyes, the tower burst into flames, tiny figures flying off; and then it imploded, falling on itself in giant billows of smoke and ash. For weeks like many unknown to those who died, I watched and grieved for a weeping New York on television. And up until this visit, I was caught up in the endless weeping with America.

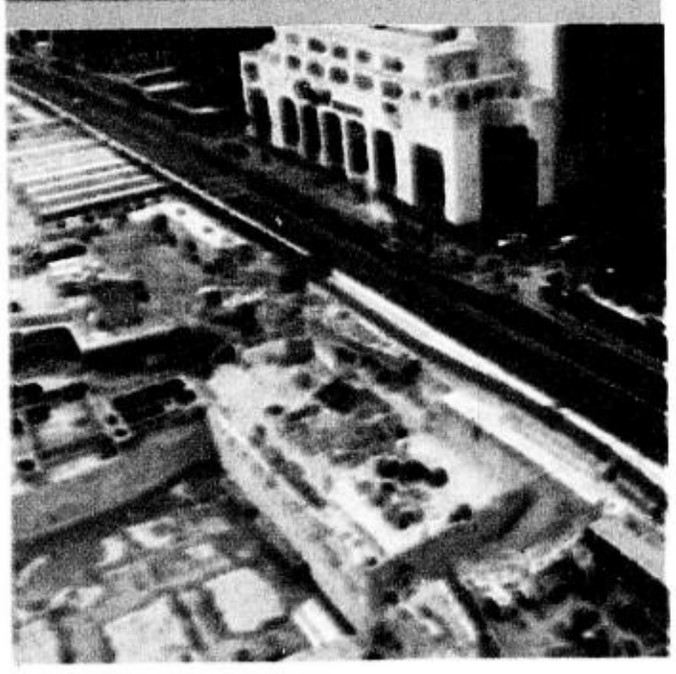
When that president of Cantor Fitzgerald sobbed before the camera for the one thousand employees he lost that morning, I wept. When the Beamer widow spoke of her husband on camera and never once quivered or winced in pain, I also wept. Even the sight of the American flag hoisted on every home front made me cry. Imagine how "America the Beautiful" sung in almost every show also drew out the tears, or how the "Star Spangled Banner" that wrung the hearts of thousands on baseball fields—and who would let out one huge sigh when an eagle was let to soar on that last line—when the World Series had resumed, touched me. I was so drawn into the humanity of tears that I forgot why I, too, was crying.

Three months later, on this visit, the open grieving seemed done. On the streets, beyond Ground Zero, I scoured for a reason for my tears. There was little I could pick up.

I realized then that my sorrow was only for the death of my paltry memories. How could I have known that in those gleaming towers that I thought of merely as landmarks for two summers, thousands of real human beings made their living? How could I have known that in this city where people looked inside and hardly ever showed a hint of feeling, thousands were husbands, wives, and kin who were loved deeply? How could I have imagined how coming face-to-face with senseless destruction of that magnitude felt?

How could a summer visitor know?





FROM HORROR to calm REUTERS

TRAVEL BRIEFS

Heritage tours

INSCRIBE Tours is organizing a daylong heritage tour of Taal in Batangas on June 12.

It includes visits to the well-preserved homes of some of the leading figures of the Philippine Revolution—Leon Apacible, Gliceria Villavicencio and Marcela Agoncillo—as well as the Basilica of St. Martin of Tours, the biggest in the Orient, and Escuela Pia, now the town's cultural center.

Participants will also enjoy Tagaytay's flower farms before winding up the day with a visit to the Aguinaldo Shrine in Kawit, Cavite.

The tour includes *merienda* and a buffet lunch of sumptuous native fare at Taal's famed Casa Punzalan.

On June 24, a tour combining Balayan's unique lechon parade with Taal will be conducted.

Call 575-8370, 894-6251, 0917-3584558 or 0917-4972483.

Value added

TRADERS Hotel Manila is offering a Traders Value Rate of $130 on room rates, covering free roundtrip airport transfers, buffet breakfast, unlimited laundry, late checkout and local calls, and IDD and fax at cost price.

These extra perks are also available: upgrade to Traders Club Room, cocktails at the Traders Club Lounge overlooking scenic Manila Bay and its famous sunset, and free use of the Traders Club boardroom for a maximum of three hours.

Call (02) 527-9107/527-7011 local 2608; fax at (02) 527-9144/525-8626; or e-mail thm@shangri-la.com.

For high flyers

EMIRATES airline has opened an exclusive first- and business-class check-in terminal—the only one of its kind in the world—at the Dubai International Airport.

The terminal is designed to speed departing travelers smoothly onto flights with minimum formality and fuss. Apart from six first-class and 10 business-class check-in counters, it offers eight express check-in counters for flyers with hand luggage only. It also has separate access to fast-track immigration and security channels.

The facilities include Internet kiosks and a separate facility for members of Skywards, the Emirates and Sri Lankan frequent flyer scheme, to view their e-mail account and send travel details to friends and family.

The new terminal is expected to handle some 400,000 first- and business-class customers a year. Access is restricted to passengers flying Emirates first- or business class, Sri Lankan business class, and Skywards Gold and Silver members regardless of which class they fly in.

Weekend getaways

CAUSEWAY Tours is inviting travelers to experience Daet's "Pinyasan Festival" on June 22-23, highlighted by a street-dancing parade featuring performers in pineapple-inspired costumes.

On June 29-July 1, there will be a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Piat in Cagayan Valley on her feast day.

Call 851-7294 or 853-8728.

June treats

AT THE HOLIDAY Inn Resort Clark Field, enjoy home cooking that's uniquely Filipino at Mequeni Café's Filipino lunch buffet on June 12.

On June 16, treat your dad on his special day to an international dinner buffet at Mequeni Café or an all-you-can-eat feast at Mongolian Restaurant. Groups of five persons get a complimentary bottle of wine.

More treats: "Hotdogs Galore!" daily at Mequedell at 3-6 p.m.; "FIFA World Cup Viewing" with special bar chow at the 13th Lounge until June 30; "Take A Bite Of The Wild Side" on June 21-22, 6 p.m. at the pool terrace

Credit card woes and other complaints

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

CHECK the balance of your account be-fore using a credit card to avoid embarrassment and inconvenience. Some cashiers can be rude and condescending to a cardholder whose account is declined by the bank upon clearance. Here's the experience of a cardholder of e-mail address johanna.gotera @schering.ph:

"My mom and dad attended one of those business opportunity meetings at a five-star hotel. She was so convinced by the presentation that she decided to buy one of the products for sale and used her Standard Chartered supplementary card to pay. To her utter embarrassment, the lady who swiped her card for clearance looked condescendingly at my mom and said in no uncertain terms that her card was declined by the bank.

"I was surprised. As far as I know, all our bills have been paid on time. Calling the bank to check my account was an exercise in futility and patience. We made 18 attempts from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. hoping to connect to customer care. All we got was the voice automated answering system that said 'Sorry, you cannot leave a message right now because this user's mailbox is full.' We got connected eventually and found out later that our credit card account was rejected because the bank failed to credit our previous payment properly!"

As of this writing, the cardholder was still waiting for the bank to make the necessary adjustment. "After waiting for 10 days, now I have to wait for another two days before the bank sets the record straight," the cardholder wrote.

Double swipe, double charges

Don't lose sight of your debit card when paying your bill, R. Natividad Villanueva warned. Here's the experience of Natividad at a restaurant in Adriatico, Ermita:

"At the end of my dinner party, I paid the bill using my Visa Electron debit card. However, the waitress returned the card five minutes later saying that a bank refused to accept the card. I gave them my other card, which was promptly accepted. I signed the charge slip and thought nothing of the event until I checked my account balance later and discovered that I had been billed twice for the same meal!

"I informed the bank and found out that I have to wait for 60 days while the bank investigated the matter. Needless to say, the restaurant blatantly refused to have anything to do with the error. Having been a credit card user for the last five years, I find it impossible to be charged twice using my cards. Debit cards are being advertised aggressively these days. I hope this will serve as a warning to others."

Prepaid card shaving

Unfortunately for phone card users, there's no way to check the load of cards they're buying. Here's a complaint from Arnel F. de Guzman, sectoral commissioner, Formal Labor and Migrant Workers Sector, National Anti-Poverty Commission:

"I bought two Globe prepaid cards worth P250 each via the automated teller machine of BPI in Kamias. I realized later that the P250 worth of load was not credited to my cell phone while only P100 worth of load was credited to the other cell phone, which was my daughter's. The full amount of P500 was, however, deducted from my ATM savings account. I called Globe's 24-hour customer service (730-1000) and BPI hotline 89-100. It was an exasperating experience as I waited for eons to get instruction. Finally, I got a reference number and was told to call again after five to 10 working days. Two weeks later, my ATM account was debited with P500, but I had to wait another two weeks for Globe to investigate the shaved loads from my prepaid cards. This is too much! Please warn other unwary consumers about buying pre-paid loads through automated machines."

Fake P1,000 from ATM?

Oggie G. Ramos, a creative director of an advertising firm in Makati, withdrew money from the ATM of RCBC in Greenbelt last April 12. He tried to deposit part of the cash to his checking account at Banco de Oro but was told that the P1,000 bill was counterfeit.

"The branch cashier told me that per Central Bank regulations, she would have to confiscate the bill for verification and examination. I was issued an official receipt as well as a photocopy of both sides of the bill in question. On April 15, I informed RCBC and forwarded copies of documents from Banco de Oro. The branch manager claimed that it was a first case for the bank, and that they are equipped with devices that detected counterfeit money.

"After following up the matter for several weeks, I had a sinking feeling that I had been gypped. How could I prove that it was dispensed by their machine? How can I trust ATMs again?"

We received information that RCBC customer service called up Ramos last week to inform him that the bank was willing to reimburse the P1,000, out of goodwill.

Infocom responds to complaint

Biboy G. Taleon, assistant vice-president for sales of Infocom Technologies, wrote: "We are surprised to have read in your column (May 5 issue) the complaint of Ronnie Amorado of Davao City. The issue was already raised during our April 4 mediating meeting with the Department of Trade and Industry. We clarified that the migration program was not a promo but an optional incentive offer made to subscribers of Gatesway server, which Infocom Technologies, Inc. took over since its purchase July 2001.

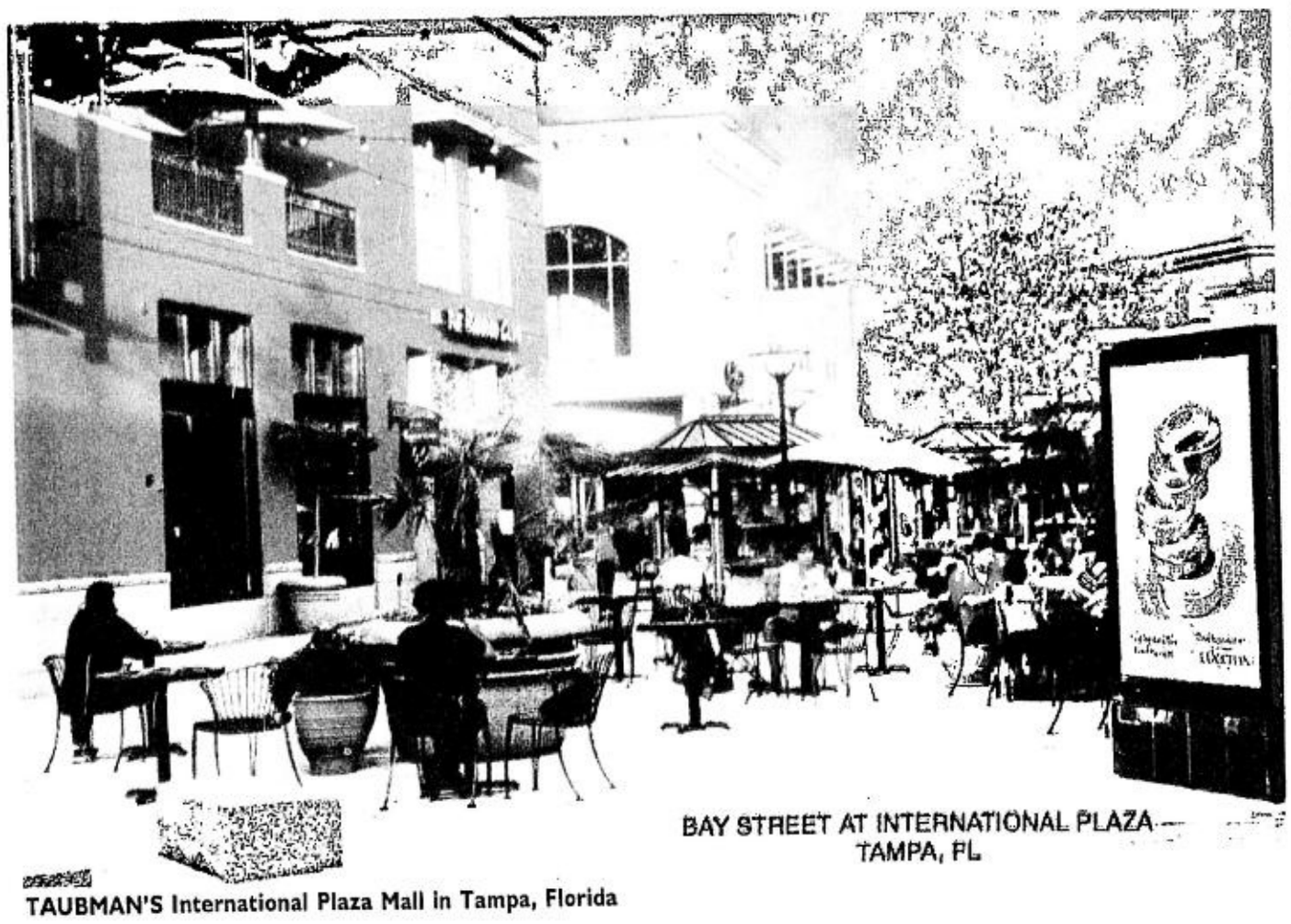
"We sent our teams of call-out specialist last January and February to explain to subscribers the details of the migration option. However, our records of calls last December 20 showed that Mr. Amorado's phone was not in service and could not be reached. He was informed eventually about the migration program on March 25. We further sent a letter of apology to him and apologized for the inconvenience the migration has caused him."

Other comments and complaints from readers

Concerned Citizen of CSReginio @cosway.com.ph wrote: "Consumers should always ask for official receipts, whether they're paying for goods or services, and always report business establishments that don't issue ORs. Taxes should go to the government if this country is to be progressive. One way to report these errant establishments is via text messaging. (Please e-mail Concerned Citizen for the list of GMA text messaging numbers).

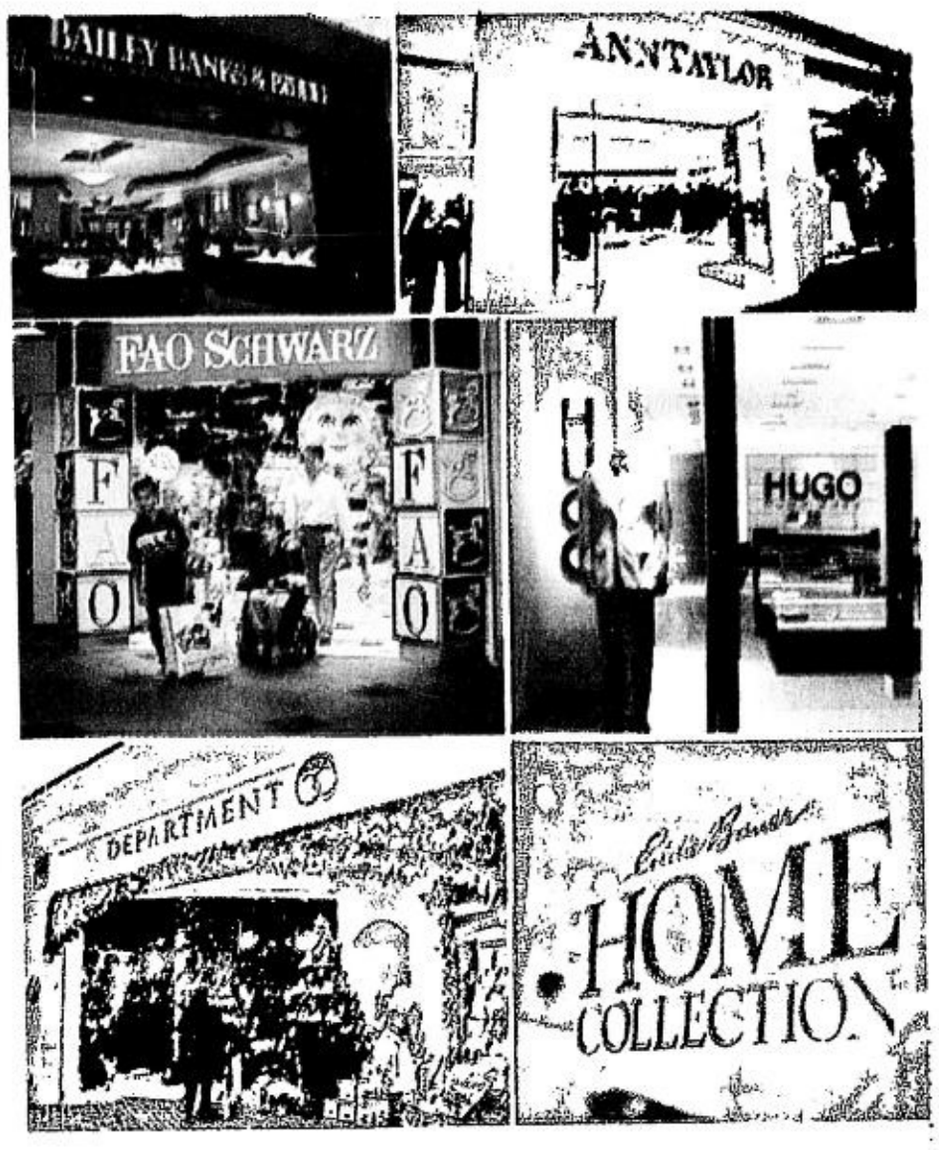
From Ester Sison of deesison @yahoo.com: "Why do some supermarkets shortchange their customers? They do not give loose coin changes (if it comes to five and 10 centavos) to customers. Their stock answer is, "*Wala kaming* P0.05 o P.10 coins."

Send comments and complaints to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph.



BAY STREET AT INTERNATIONAL PLAZA — TAMPA, FL

TAUBMAN'S International Plaza Mall in Tampa, Florida



Hit the mall, Jack

From page F1

areas and/or strip malls or plazas that are not enclosed, and 48 percent want to visit different rather than familiar stores. Four in 10 of shopping travelers shop at outlet centers.

Lastly, shopping travelers are likely to be Baby Boomers and have higher-than-average household incomes. These Baby Boomers fall in the range of 35-54 years old. A third are Gen X'ers or Y'ers 18-34, and less than a fourth are aged 55 or older.

Karen MacDonald, director of communications for Taubman Centers, said that American travel patterns changed since 9/11, and industry analysts reported a noticeable increase in the number of leisure travelers who ranked automobiles as their preferred vacation transportation.

Responding to this trend, the Taubman group has created "Drive and Shop" packages that combine the best shopping, accommodations and entertainment in tourism markets nationwide. They have also come up with the "Treat Your Traveler" program, which is an incentive shopping program that rewards both out-of-town guests and their hosts when they shop together.

MacDonald said it made sense to provide special offers to both the local residents and their guests. Think Filipino-Americans and their hordes of family members who come to shop and visit. The Beverly Center in Los Angeles, owned by the Taubman group, recognizes the value of this program for the many Filipinos living in the area.

In a 2000 study by the US Department of Commerce, California remains the top travel destination for shoppers, followed by Florida and New York. In its Forecast of International Travel to the US the department says it expects international travel levels to return to 2000 levels by 2004.

At the recently concluded TIA Powwow, the entire US travel industry remained upbeat as they rallied together in giving their much-beleaguered industry a shot in the arm. The Philippines, which is Northwest Airlines second-biggest market in Asia after Japan, had a contingent of nine travel agents and three journalists attending the Powwow. Northwest itself remains very positive about the slow but positive return to normalcy in the travel industry.

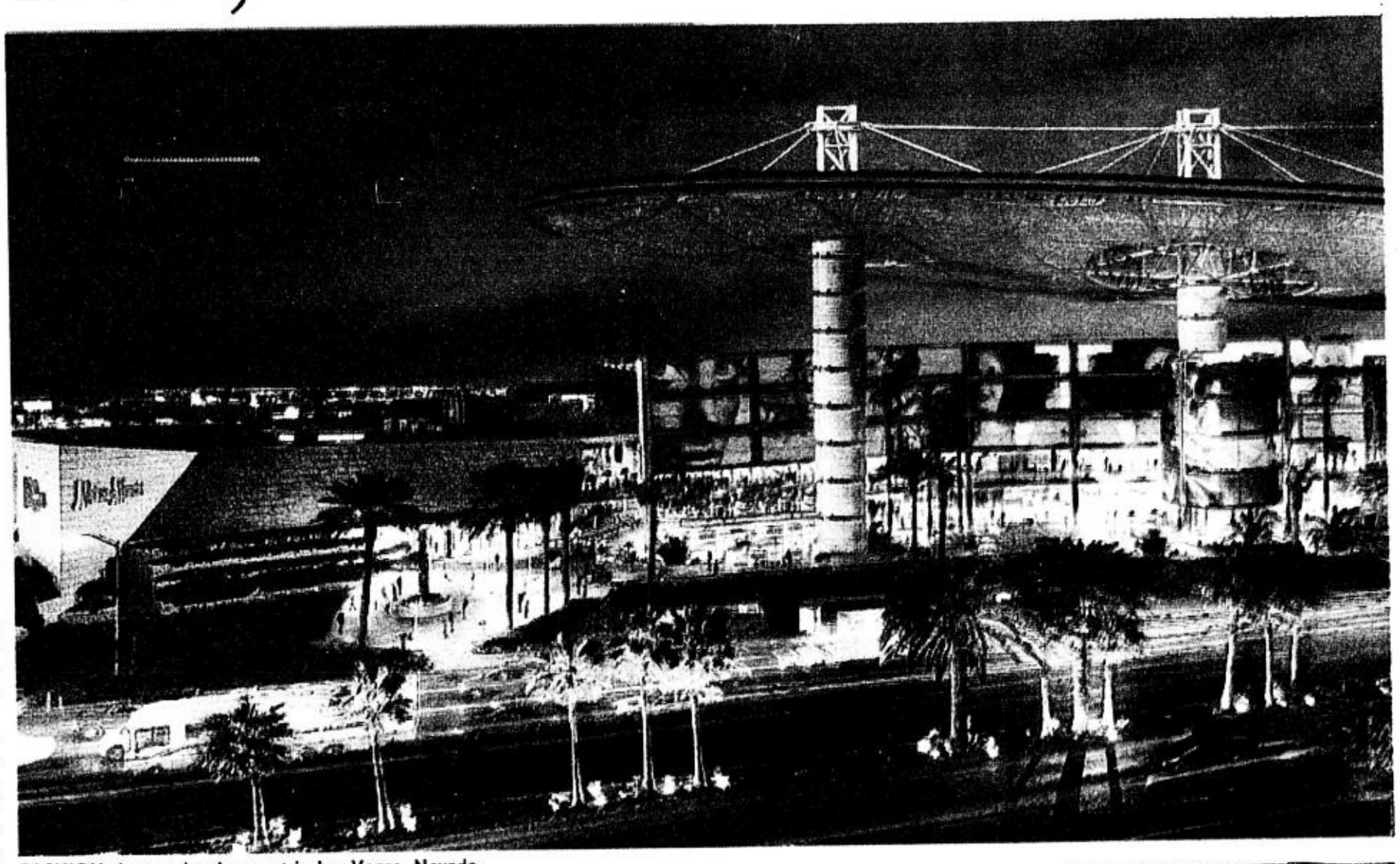
At the Powwow, a huge amount of support was accorded to New York City. The state even hosted a lavish New York style picnic lunch in the park during the four-day event. Bill Marriott, chair of the Marriott group of companies, and Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida spoke on separate occasions.

Commerce Sec. Don Evans said, "We've been aggressive in communicating to travelers around the world that the United States is safe and open for business."

Surely, Filipinos have done their part to boost US travel if the full Manila-US flights last summer are any indication. Filipinos have been flocking to the malls and outlets that dot the American landscape. Fearless in the face of terrorism and devaluation, Pinoy travelers and those never-say-die Balikbayan boxes have continued to make a beeline at the airport.

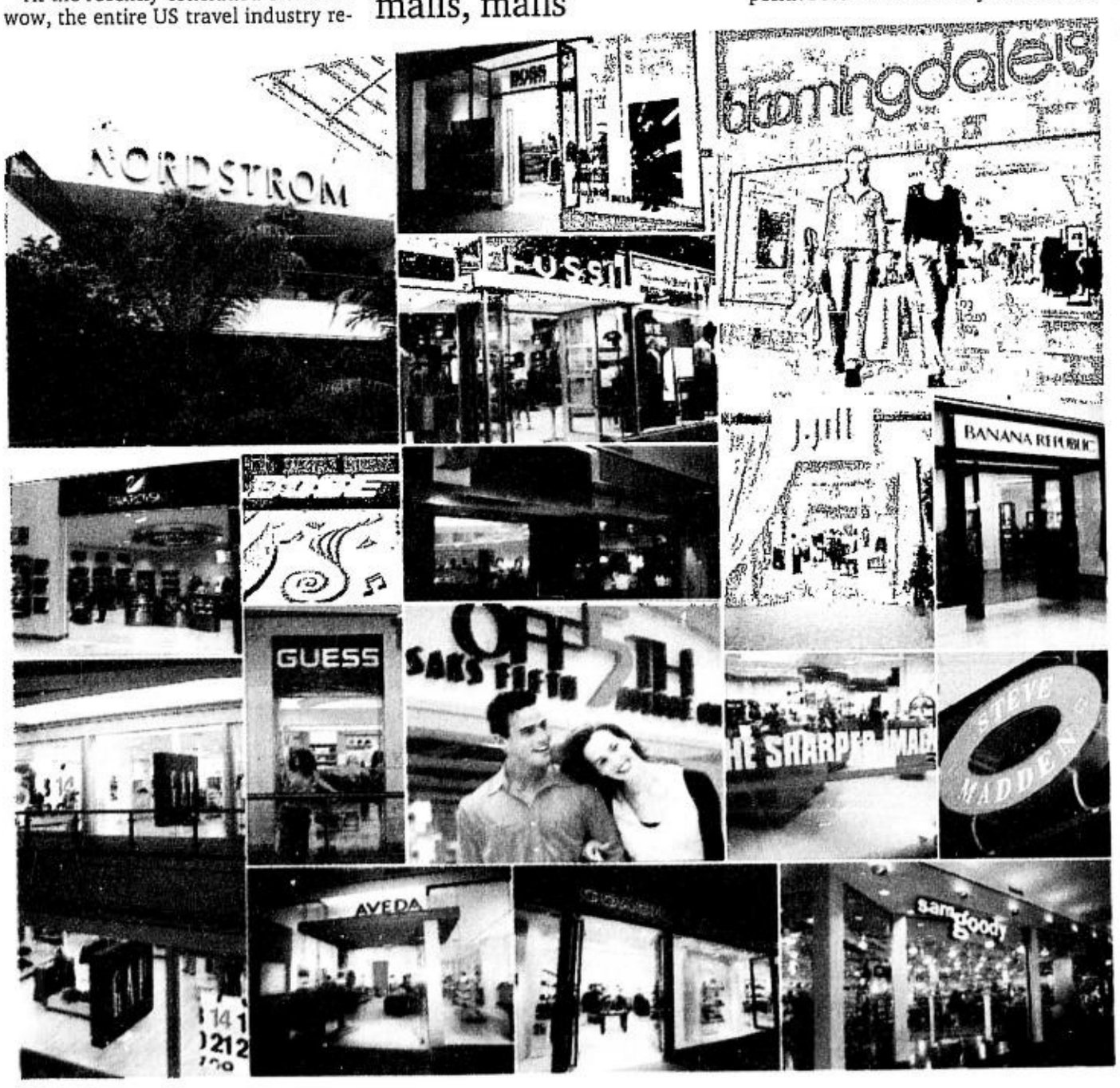
Northwest flies to the US twice daily.

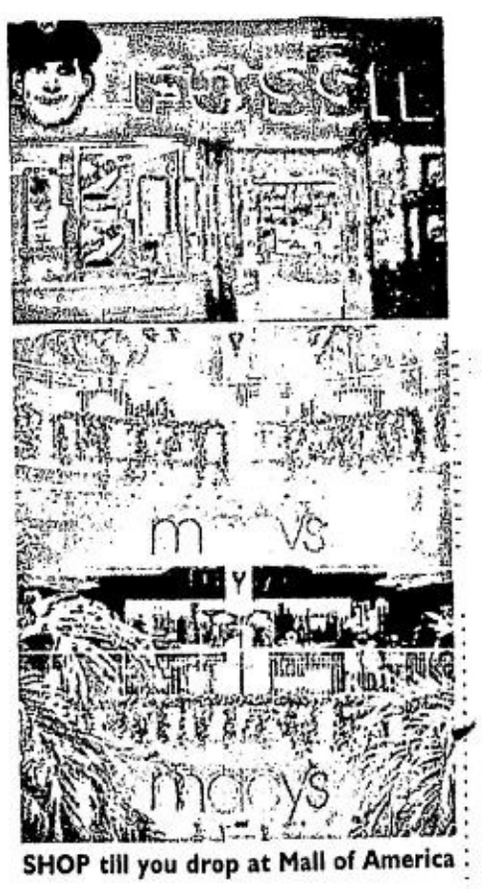
Email the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph



FASHION show redevelopment in Las Vegas, Nevada

Move over, Disneyland; visitors to America are headed for the malls, malls





SHOP till you drop at Mall of America

SHOPPERS AND TRAVELERS. Philippine travel agents with Northwest executives

Big sale marks Crossing's 8th year

SHOPPERS can avail of great buys and enjoy huge discounts on a wide range of quality merchandise, from youngsters' apparel and other material needs for the coming school season, to the finest quality ready-to-wear options and accessories for men and women, home furnishings, and health and fitness products.

Crossings Department Store is celebrating its eighth anniversary with a nationwide sale on June 14-16 and June 28-30.

Crossings Department Store first opened its doors to the public in Shangri-la Plaza Mall in Mandaluyong City. It is geared particularly toward the young, middle-range market segment that looks for quality items at reasonable cost.

Crossings Department Store is at Shangri-La Plaza Mall with branches on Rizal and Quezon Avenues.

How to make Dad's birthday more meaningful

Q: My dad's 50th birthday is coming up, and our family wants to honor him by doing something both fun and meaningful on his special day. We were thinking of donating to a good cause or organization. We already have several groups in mind. Would you give me tips on how to choose a beneficiary as well as things to do as part of his birthday celebration?

NEW WAYS OF GIVING

Congratulations on this great decision! Indeed, it is never too early or too late to help others, and you have made a good choice in celebrating your father's birthday by helping others. Choosing an organization to donate to requires a little research, and these are the basic things you ought to look for:

• **Profile** - Do you know people from the organization you wish to give to? Who are the people behind the organization you want to support? Do they have a committed and credible board and staff? Do some background study on the group, and avoid groups who have been involved with shady deals or personalities in the past.

• **Relevance** - Look through the organization's vision, mission, objectives and programs, and see if they are involved in projects that your dad will be interested in supporting.

• **Track record** - Study the organization's achievements to see if there's any history of outstanding performance. If the group you want to donate to is fairly new, ask around to check on their reputation and credibility among other individuals and organizations. You want to be sure that you're helping out an organization that is committed to achieve their mission.

• **Accountability** - Make sure that the organization you're donating to can tell you where your money goes, and what it's being used for.

Now that you more or less have an idea of where to give your family's money to, here are some ideas on how to make your dad's birthday celebration even more fun and meaningful:

Host a small get-together within the organization's premises, and treat staff and residents (if you're visiting an orphanage or home, for the elderly) to some birthday goodies.

In lieu of gifts, ask friends and family to donate to the organization instead. Spice up the gift-giving by specifying a theme. In your case, you can ask friends and family to donate 50 pieces of each item they are donating (e.g., toys or books), or money in denominations of 50 or 500.

Make giving a yearly habit and set up the "Daddy's Birthday Fund," which you will donate to the organization every year on your father's birthday.

Venture for Fund Raising is a nonprofit organization that teaches the joy of giving, and provides consulting, public information, research and training assistance on fund raising to other non-profit organizations. E-mail info@ venture-asia.org.

BEA Zobel de Ayala, Lizzie Zobel de Ayala, Catherine Zobel de Ayala, Sofia Zobel-Elizalde and Patricia Zobel de Ayala

JOHN Gish, Mark Sopp, John Mason and Scott Brown, foreign consultants from Callison Architecture, with Myrna Fernandez, Rowena Tomeldan, Winnie Nazareth and Miriam Katigbak of Ayala Land Inc.

A taste of Hollywood at Greenbelt 3

HOLLYWOOD celebrities graced the sneak preview of Greenbelt 3 in Makati recently. George Clooney, Julia Roberts, and Tom Cruise were there, as well as well loved characters Lara Croft and Dick Tracy. Although they were only masks, the stunt added glitter to the event.

Hosted by Kris Aquino and Marc Nelson, the simultaneous launch of Greenbelt's Food Choices, Timezone and Cinemas was memorable. Cocktails were served by Food Choices' 17 dining establishments. The ceremonial toss of the giant Greenbelt salad was participated in by members of the Zobel family: Catherine, Sofia, Bea, Patricia and Lizzie.

Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay, Ayala Corp. president Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, and Ayala Land Inc.'s president Francisco Licuanan III opened Timezone's doors by speeding off in the racetrack of the F1 Ferrari Racing, one of Timezone's arcade games. Guests were treated to the play-all-you-can Powercards and the R360 Simulator Game Machine.

Guests also enjoyed the Greenbelt cinema complex, which featured powerful THX speakers.

Among the guests were celebrity pairs such as Christine Bersola and Julius Babao, Miriam Quiambao and Hans Montenegro, Rachel Alejandro and Lee Robin Salazar, newlyweds Daphne Oseña and Patrick Paez, and Cesar Montano and Sunshine Cruz with their kids Angela Kristine and Christian Angelo. Also spotted were Ces Drilon and her kids, Bobby Yan, Sheryl Cosim, Vince Hizon, Archie Rodriguez, Bea Valdes, MTV VJ KC Montero, director Rowell Santiago, stage actors Audie Gemora and Carlo Orosa, Miguel Pastor, Lucy Torres-Gomez, Peter Ng, Victor and Flora Siasat, GMA's "Click" stars China Cojuangco, Bojo Molina, and Cris Villonco, commercial model Lui Villaruz, Bench model Mickey Randall, and retail moguls Ben Chan, Cathy Escano, and Rico and Joel Tantoco.

HOSTS Marc Nelson and Kris Aquino

MONIQUE and Cris Villonco with Mark Reyes

CATHY Escaño, Lucy Torres-Gomez and Ben Chan

AYALA Land Inc. president Francisco H. Licuanan III

CHINA Cojuangco and Bernard Dy

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
News that makes a difference.

She's in love with a priest

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I am 22 and a college graduate. I've never had a boyfriend and I thought no man could make me fall in love until this priest came into my life.

I don't want to give up my feelings for him, and I don't think God would really mind since I know He is loving and understanding.

I've taken the initiative to let him know how I feel but still I'm not sure if he feels the same for me or if he is just being kind. Please give me some consoling words.

CARA

For your sake (and, for now, never mind his), I hope he is just being kind, for that would mean that he won't give up his religious vow for you and that he is only looking for a gentle way to put you down.

Women who court priests court disaster. They court a fate worse than that of a common mistress' and a wife's whose in-laws disapprove. A mistress could at least often tell her illegitimate child who his father is, and could sometimes even flaunt her relationship with her lover. A wife rejected by her in-laws could at least claim that she is legally married and be accepted by the rest of society. But a woman who has a relationship with a priest, and worse, who has a child by him can hardly look forward to such consolation. Instead, she will have to hide herself and their relationship like a secret that is a zillion times more embarrassing than the priest's dead toenail.

It may be that you are not simply infatuated with him. It may be that you are not just intrigued by the prospect of being in a relationship that is more challenging than Romeo and Juliet's. It may indeed be that, as you said, you are truly in love with him. But if you pursue him and succeed, I doubt very much if that love would last long when it is assailed by the misery that awaits it.

Perhaps your only consolation now is that you have not gone too far yet down that road. You can still turn back.

What I have started here, of course, is just a timely warning. Pray for strength and Divine Guidance. There are some priests who have gone the other way, now living with their wives.

Afraid to let his new school know he's gay

MY family moved here in the US last year because of my mom's work. I am a consistent honor student in my new school here, but I'm not happy.

I am gay. My family accepts me for what I am, and so did my classmates there in the Philippines. Even the macho guys there adored me. But here, I hesitate to show my true colors because I might lose my good reputation in school.

Americans are more tolerant of gays. But that doesn't mean that, as in my school in the Philippines, I'll have a lot of friends. I have a classmate who is also gay but he has only a few friends and they're just like him. I'd like to have a lot of friends of all types.

I'm thinking of moving back and studying there to be happy again. My *lolo, yaya* and aunts are still living in our house there, so I will not really be alone. But my mom says that if I leave, I'd "break" our family and I'd miss the further honors and opportunities implied by my good academic record here.

A friend told me that being part of a loving family is one of the best things that can happen to anyone. But I also think that one has to love one's self. So, should I leave or should I stay?

JAMES

It seems that you want not only to be openly gay and have friends; you also want to be openly gay and popular. Popularity is fine if you are running for an office, but if you only want to be happy, if you only want to be true to yourself, then a vote of confidence from a few people who sincerely care for you is all you need.

You may be gay, but as long as you are not doing anything illegal or immoral, there is really no sane reason for people to avoid you. So, whenever you feel it's right to do so, come out of your closet there and don't worry about what the majority will say. You are neither a clown nor a politician, and you should come out not with the intention of pleasing the crowd but only with the goal of being true to yourself.

Seek the approval of your conscience, not of the crowd's or your vanity's. When you are being true to yourself, it should not matter whether you have many friends or few, or whether you are here or there.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

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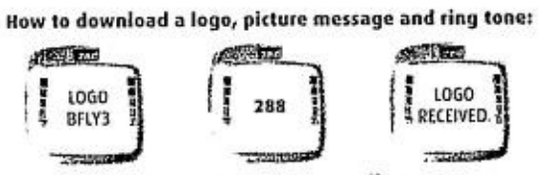

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PICTURE MESSAGES

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FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

The Community-Based Coastal Resource Management-Resource Center (CBCRM-RC), a non-government organization (NGO) involved in research, advocacy, training, organizing and networking activities in support of the empowerment of coastal communities is looking for a person to fill up the position of:

INFORMATION SPECIALIST

for its
CBCRM Learning and Research Network (CBCRM LeaRN) Project

Key responsibilities:

- Take the lead role in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project's web-based networking activities
- Develop and maintain the CBCRM RC's web site
- Take the lead in developing and implementing the project's publications and library services
- Support the development and strengthening of the project's networking process and mechanisms, in coordination with other CBCRM RC staff
- Develop the marketing and e-commerce of the CBCRM RC's publications and materials
- Support the Network Coordinator in the preparation of timely donor reports
- Provide technical and administrative assistance to the project

Qualifications:

- At least two years of development work experience, preferably in the field of community-based coastal resource management
- Knowledge of the Internet and web-based activities is essential
- Good computer literacy skills, specifically in desktop publishing and web-design
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, in English and Filipino
- Ability to work under pressure, meet tight deadlines, and deliver agreed standards of performance
- Knowledge and understanding of coastal resources management/fisheries issues and organizations in the Philippines and Southeast Asia is an advantage

Please mail or email your letter of application, together with your curriculum vitaé and any sample of written work to:

The Center Coordinator
CBCRM Resource Center
Rm. 107 Philippine Social Science Center
Commonwealth Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. No. (632) 927-9237 or 920-3368
Email: admin@cbcrmlearning.org

Deadline of application is on 12 June 2002. Only short-listed applicants will be informed of the interview date.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSTS./TELLER

- Male or female
- Between 21 to 25 years old
- Graduate of Business related course
- Experience in Tellering/New Accounts is an advantage
- Computer literate
- With good oral and written communication skills
- Pleasing personality

TECHNICAL SPECIALIST

- Male, between 20-26 years old
- Graduate of Computer Science/Computer Engineering/ECE
- With at least 2 years experience preferably from an IT Firm or Banks
- Familiar with Networking, CISCO Routers, Windows NT, Datacom, MS Exchange, SCO Unix
- AS/400 or DATABASE knowledge is an advantage

AUDIT ASSISTANTS

- Male or female
- Between 22-25 years old
- Graduate of Accounting
- With at least 1 year experience preferably from an Audit Firm or Banks
- Computer literate
- With good oral and written communication skills

SALES & SERVICE OFFICERS

- Male or female
- Between 24-28 years old
- Graduate of any Business related course
- CPA an advantage
- 3 to 5 years experience in new accounts, tellering, bookkeeping and supervision

MARKETING ASSISTANTS

- Male or female
- Between 22-27 years old
- Graduate of Business related course
- Should have strong marketing background preferably in Banking or related fields
- Familiar with solicitation of deposit accounts
- With good oral and written communication skills
- Pleasing personality

CLEARING ASSISTANTS

- Male or female
- Between 21 to 26 years old
- Graduate of Business related course
- Banking experience in Cash and Clearing is advantage
- With good oral and written communication skills
- Pleasing and service-oriented

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

- Male, between 20-24 years old
- Graduate of Computer Science or any related course
- With at least 1 year experience
- With good oral and written communication skills

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS

- Male or female
- Between 22-25 years old
- Graduate of Accounting
- With at least 1 year experience
- Computer literate
- With good oral and written communication skills

Interested applicants may submit their Letter of Application, Resumé, and Transcript of Records to:

Human Resources Department
E-mail: lance_evangelista@yahoo.com

Only qualified applicants will be notified.

A 5-Star Hotel

has a job vacancy for

POOL and RECREATION MANAGER

To handle the newly renovated swimming pool outlet

- ☑ College graduate
- ☑ At least three (3) years work experience
- ☑ Neat, personable and honest
- ☑ Written and verbal facility
- ☑ Knowledgeable in the operation of the pool and recreation area
- ☑ Ability to plan and establish marketing actions and activities to maximize revenue
- ☑ Knowledgeable in sports events and other social and fitness activities for guest and pool members

QUALIFIED CANDIDATES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT THEIR RESUMÉ WITH A RECENT 2X2 COLORED PHOTO AND CERTIFICATES IF ANY, AT:

P.O. BOX 117, CPO 1099, MANILA

THE HERITAGE HOTEL
MANILA

Join a hotel chain that values individualism.

The Heritage Hotel Manila is managed by the Singapore-based Millennium and Copthorne International Limited. Ranked as Asia's largest hotel group, its London-based subsidiaries Millennium and Copthorne Hotels plc, has, under its division, Millennium and Copthorne Hotels and Resorts, a stable of 88 hotels in 15 countries. Sixteen of these hotels are managed by sister subsidiary company, City E-Solutions Limited (CES).

We are now inviting dynamic and dedicated individuals to apply for the position of:

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Requirements:
- Has a degree in Mass Communications, Journalism or any related course from a reputable school
- With at least three (3) years experience in the same position
- Proficient in written and oral communications
- Strong leadership and managerial skills
- Must posses a pleasing personality
- Preferably with press contacts
- Team player, resourceful and creative

Compensation package will commensurate according to the candidate's overall qualification and experience.

Interested parties must submit their application letters, resumé (indicating their expected remuneration package) and 2"x2" photo no later than 21 June 2002

The General Manager
The Heritage Hotel Manila
Roxas Boulevard corner EDSA, Pasay City,
Metro Manila, 1300 Philippines
Telephone: (632) 854 8888 Facsimile: (632) 854 8833
E-mail: execoffice@heritagehotelmanila.com

MANAGED BY THE MILLENNIUM & COPTHORNE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

DO YOU MEASURE UP?

A globally known company leading the ranks of the country's most prestigious industry is looking for highly motivated and dynamic individuals who have the passion to succeed!

Qualified candidates must be:

- Graduate of any four year course from reputable schools
- Preferably with 1 to 2 years telemarketing experience
- With pleasant speaking voice
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
- With pleasing personality
- At least 5'4" in height for female and 5'8" for male
- Have the drive to excel in the challenging and rewarding world of sales
- Ability to speak Chinese an advantage

Please send resumé with 2x2 colored picture and transcript of records to:

Box 700
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
5th Floor, Building B, SM Megamall
Mandaluyong City

IMMEDIATE HIRING

FINANCE MANAGER

The successful candidate shall manage the accounting, financial reporting, funding and budgeting functions in the Philippine Headquarters, and shall be responsible for providing financial information to Management.

- He/she must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy. Preferably a CPA.
- Must have hands-on experience using SAP Systems as well as competence in Excel, Word, Internet and Intranet.
- At least 10 years of progressive working experience in Finance/Accounting is required, 5 years of which is in middle management position.
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, management and supervisory skills.
- Must be willing to travel and work long hours.

CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICERS

- Female; Highly personable; At least 5'4" in height; not more than 26 years old.
- College/University graduate ideally of Social Sciences or Business related course.
- Must be highly articulate in English, both written and oral communication.
- Has strong customer focus, high tolerance for stress, initiative to learn, with keen attention to details, and patience in handling customer complaints.
- Willing to work on shifting schedule and/or extended working hours.
- Experience gained from a telecoms or any service-oriented industry an advantage

CALL CENTER AGENTS

- Female; personable; not more than 26 years old
- College/University graduate ideally of Social Sciences or Business related course
- Fluent in English with good voice projection and can handle conversation with local & foreign clienteles; Must be highly motivated and goal oriented
- Willing to work on shifting schedule and/or extended working hours
- Relevant work experience would be an advantage

BE PART OF OUR TEAM ...! Send or hand-carry your detailed resume and most recent passport size ID picture to:

accs
ACCORD CUSTOMER CARE SOLUTIONS

The Human Resources Department
Unit 4 Garden Level, Bonaventure Plaza
Ortigas Ave., Green hills, San Juan, MM
☎ 722-5337 • 722-5367
e-mail: edwinvidal@accordccs.com.ph

THE BEST

DESERVES ONLY THE BEST

DISTRICT SALES MANAGER - (DSM)

Male, Mature and experienced individual who can handle 8-9 sales representatives. Preferably with background in an advertising company.

SALES REPRESENTATIVES - (SR)

Our search begins with someone who has the passion to succeed in the world of yellow pages and internet sales advertising. College graduate. Ideal candidate must be male with good communication skills and strong self confidence. He must be able to express himself both in English and Filipino with ease. The candidate must be willing to do field work. No experience necessary.

COLLECTORS - (COL)

Preferably with One (1) year related work experience, with good moral conduct, with valid professional driver's license for motorcycle use.

Excellent compensation package awaits the successful candidates which includes above-average financial remuneration, personal development and training.

Please send or hand carry your resume or e-mail us at :

BEST TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES INC.
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
7F Salamin Bldg., Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
e-mail : besttel3@broline.com

MAUNSELL PHILS., INC. has been successful in securing major domestic and international design projects and is urgently looking to expand its Makati design office.

We seek highly motivated individuals who wish to be involved in multimillion dollar projects for the following positions:

Maunsell

❑ **SENIOR STRUCTURAL ENGINEER**
- minimum of seven (7) cumulative years of experience in structure engineering design work for industrial type steel buildings.
- had undertaken a three dimensional analysis design of steel structure.
- experience in road and bridge design will be an advantage.
- knowledgeable in the use of SPACE GAS, STRAND, ETABS, or STAAD software and local and international codes and standards.
- can develop design criteria, specifications and drawings to meet project requirement.
- can coordinate engineering effort with other disciplines.
- can provide construction support and sites visits to solve engineering problems.
- can monitor progress to ensure conformance to project schedule and budget.

❑ **CAD OPERATORS**
- proficient in AutoCad 2000
- minimum 3-5 years experience in AutoCad drafting
- experience in structural detailing is a must.

Mail application letter, comprehensive resume, employment or training certificates, academic transcript not later than 07 June 2002 to the address below.

Previous applicants for these position need not apply.

HR MANAGER
MAUNSELL PHILS., INC.
11th Floor Ayala Life – FGU Center
6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Email Address: mpi@maunsellphils.com

FOR **IMMEDIATE** HIRING

LAWYER

Requirements:
- Male, 25-30 years old
- At least 2 years experience in litigation
- Good in oral and written communication with above-average in technical writing
- Good academic preparation
- Computer literate (a MUST!)
- Self-motivated
- Willing to start this June 2002

Submit your application letter, comprehensive resumé with recent 2x2 ID picture and a sample copy of your own pleadings to:

1. **vvrc@edsamail.com.ph**
2. **Valdes, Valdes, Rodulfa & Associates**
   4th Floor, CJV Building, 108 Aguirre Street
   Legaspi Village, Makati City

Or call **815-2326 / 819-1740.** Look for **Adel.**

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
By a Progressive Market Research Agency

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

- ☑ Female, 20-22 years old
- ☑ Fresh graduate of AB/BS Psychology or BS Socio-Anthropology
- ☑ Computer literate
- ☑ Excellent oral and written communication skills
- ☑ Proficient in both English and Tagalog
- ☑ Highly motivated
- ☑ Energetic and with good work ethic

Please send your resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 picture to:

MK-86
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Ground Floor, Atrium of Makati
Makati Avenue, Makati City

or email to mares8888@yahoo.com

Qualified applicants will be notified and scheduled for interview.

Will Decena AND ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERS BUILDERS

Our Company, a construction firm, is in need of:

CIVIL ENGINEERS

Requirements:

Must be licensed
Must have at least 3 years experience in architectural and civil construction
Must have knowledge in estimate works
Must be computer literate
Must be proficient in both oral and written Tagalog and English language
Must be of good moral character
Must not be more than 35 years old

Bring your resumé, 2x2 ID and other credentials and apply at:

84-A 9th Street Near 11th Avenue
Grace Park, Caloocan City
Tel. No. (02) 364-6178

Look for: **Isagani DG Alcantara**

HARIBON FOUNDATION

Haribon Foundation is a non-stock, non-profit and membership organization committed to nature conservation through community empowerment and scientific excellence. Organized in 1972 as a bird watching society, **Haribon** is known to be the pioneer environmental organization in the Philippines. For this year, we need a qualified professional to occupy the position of:

GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER
- College graduate
- Equipped with average oral and written communications skills
- Must be highly organized and systematic
- Computer literate
- With three (3) years experience in Procurement, Supply Management, Building Administration, Assets/ Property Maintenance and Management, Staff Housing Management, Inventory and other related administrative functions

Due to urgency of requirements, qualified applicants are advised to walk-in with their comprehensive resume on June 10, 11, 13, and 14 2002 only.

Human Resources Officer
Haribon Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources, Inc.
4th Floor Fil-Garcia Tower, 140 Kalayaan Ave. cor. Mayaman St., Teacher's Village, Diliman Quezon City E-mail address: director@haribon.org.ph
For Inquiries Call: 436 4363

An established and fast growing Japanese cosmetics company is seeking for a highly-motivated & talented individual for the position of:

MARKETING COORDINATOR

- Preferably a degree holder in marketing.
- Between 22 – 25 yrs. Old, male or female.
- Strong research, communication and reporting skills.
- Computer literate.
- Good command of oral and written English.

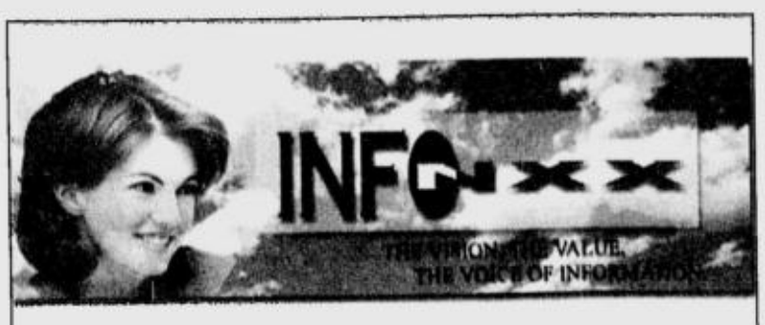
Interested applicants may apply & bring their resume, transcript of records with 2X2 photo (Mond. - Thurs. only) or e-mail at mpcgen@itextron.com

mandom philippines corporation
#92 New York cor. Oxford Street,
Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. 912-0365

Send those resumés instantly.

www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB ONLINE



Founded in 1991, **INFONXX** has been organized from the beginning to respond to highly specific information needs. We provide the people, technology and services behind Wireless and Wireline **Enhanced Directory Services**, managing a database with over 160 million listings and handling about 200 million listing requests annually.

With a 100-percent record of increasing directory-assistance traffic for its carrier partners, **INFONXX** has experienced rapid growth. In fact, an increase in revenues of 818 percent over five years earned it 334th rank on the 2001 Inc. Magazine 500 list.

This success is based on superior technology, exacting quality control and uncompromising standards of customer service. Our agents undergo constant, intensive screening, training and monitoring to ensure that those standards are always maintained.

We offer:

Tremendous career opportunities
Competitive compensation and benefits package
Excellent training programs
State of the art facilities
Friendly and supportive management
Positive and fun work environment
Personal and career growth

Real Workplace Satisfaction!

We are looking for high-energy people to help us grow.

This is your chance to be part of our professional and career-driven workforce.

You are invited to:

INFONXX Philippines, Inc.'s upcoming
JOB FAIR
June 14, 2002
10:00 am to 9:00 pm
Function Rooms A and B Megatrade Office
5th Level Megamall Building B
Mandaluyong City

Initial screening shall be conducted. Bring your resume and 2x2 photo.

See you there!

INFONXX Philippines, 11th Floor RCBC Plaza Tower 2 Ayala Ave, Makati City Tel. Nos. (632) 765-1600 www.infonxx.com.ph_obs@infonxx.com

Please e-mail us your resume at callcenter@wardhowell.com.ph, or fax your resume at **816-2929**, or mail it to or drop it at:

5th Floor, The Athenaeum Building,
160 Leviste Street, Salcedo Village,
Makati City.
Attn: Call Center Practice Group.

HIRING IMMEDIATELY

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

One of the largest U.S. based call center companies is expanding its international presence and is looking for highly motivated and talented college graduates to work in a state-of-the-art interaction center in the Alabang area. The company has a 30-year history of providing world-class services to multinational companies. Graduates with excellent communication skills that are excited about joining a great company and becoming key contributors to a fast-growing customer service industry are encouraged to reply.

Customer Service Representatives are to provide online customer service via voice communication on a 24x7 basis.

Qualifications:

- Four year college degree.
- Customer service orientation.
- Excellent English communication & typing skills.
- Willing to work night shifts.

A Stable Corrugated Carton Manufacturing Company is currently in need of highly-driven applicants to fill up its vacant positions

❶ SUPERVISORS, Maintenance Department

- ☑ Male, 30 to 42 years old
- ☑ A licensed Mechanical Engineering (for the Mechanical Section)
- ☑ A licensed Electrical Engineering (for the Electrical Section)
- ☑ Knowledge in machine electronics is a definite advantage (especially for electrical engineering position)
- ☑ Troubleshooting/preventive maintenance know-how a must
- ☑ At least 5 years relevant working experience

❷ HEAD, Quality Assurance

- ☑ Male or female, 30 to 40 years old
- ☑ Industrial or Chemical Engineering graduates
- ☑ Knowledgeable and adept in quality assurance practices and procedures
- ☑ Dependable and creative in forming a new and independent quality department for the company
- ☑ At least 5 years relevant working experience

❸ SUPERVISORS/FOREMAN, Corrugating & Converting Sections

- ☑ Male, 30 to 42 years old
- ☑ Mechanical/Industrial Engineering graduates
- ☑ At least 3 years relevant working experience

❹ HEAD OPERATORS, Corrugating & Converting Sections

- ☑ Male, 25 to 35 years old
- ☑ At least college level of any technical course
- ☑ Minimum of 3 years working experience in handling and operating flexo printing or corrugator machine

❺ ASSISTANT OPERATORS, Converting Section

- ☑ Male, 23 to 35 years old
- ☑ At least college level of any technical course
- ☑ Minimum of 1 year working experience in handling and operating flexo printing machine

All qualified and interested applicants may submit their application letter with comprehensive resumé and 2 pcs., 2x2 photos to
SPC Human Resources Department
#5 Tandang Sora Avenue Extension, Sta. Quiteria
Novaliches, Quezon City

Jobsonline.com.ph

Comtech Solutions
Visual Basic/ Net Programmers (Code:2058)
Magellan Manufacturers Marketing Corp.
Product Designer (Code.2053)
INFOStorage Corporation
Account Manager (Code:2063)
OFS Furniture Inc.
Sales/Account Executive (Code.2048)
Unlimited Solutions Corporation
Systems Engineer (Code:2049)
Fibercom T. Phils., Inc.
Account Manager (Code:2054)
Promax International Philippines
Animal Nutritionist (Code:2057)
KIDZWORLD, Inc.
Sales Managers (Code:2077)
Vision 8 Systems, Inc.
Payroll Operations Staff (Code 2081)
Winners Industrial Engineering & Tech Services
Mechanical Sales Engineer (All Around) (Code 2060)
Sales Executive/Marketing Manager (Code:2061)
SL Temps, Inc.
Accountants/Accounting Staff (Code:2064)
Exec. Secretaries/Junior Secretaries (Code:2065)
Customer Service Rep/Counter Sales Asst (Code:2066)
Front Desk Clerk/Receptionists (Code:2070)
Sales Consultants (Code:2071)
Consolidated Industrial Gases, Inc. (CIGI)
Customer Service Officer (Code:2082)
CHRYSARA
Costing Officer/Merchandiser (Code 2085)
Production Supervisor for Finishing (Code 2083)

For more job info and how to apply, Text JOB INFO <code> to 2333 on Globe phone
Ex. send JOB INFO 2058 to 2333
or visit www jobsonline com ph for more jobs

Employers Contact 927-0734 / ads@jobsonline.com.ph

An institution starting a microfinance program welcomes qualified applicants for the following positions:

INTERNAL AUDITORS

- ☑ Must be a CPA
- ☑ Not more than 30 years old
- ☑ With at least 1 year audit work experience in financing institutions
- ☑ With strong analytical and problem solving skills
- ☑ Has good communication skills (oral and written)
- ☑ Preferably a resident of Central Luzon; Northern Luzon and/or Southern Luzon Regions
- ☑ Willing to travel

AREA MANAGERS

- ☑ Graduate of Business Administration, Management, Economics, Finance, Commerce and other related courses
- ☑ Three (3) years experience in branch credit operations
- ☑ With relevant training on financial viability, branch scaling with expansion and delinquency control and management

UNIT MANAGERS

- ☑ Preferably graduate of Marketing, Finance, Economics
- ☑ At least 2-3 years related work experience
- ☑ Computer literate and knowledgeable in software application
- ☑ Above average communication skills

CREDIT OFFICERS

- ☑ Graduate of any 4-year course
- ☑ 1-2 years previous experience in marketing or sales
- ☑ Computer literate
- ☑ Average communication and writing skills

For all positions, the applicant must be willing to be assigned in any of the following areas: Metro Manila, Zambales, Benguet Province, Pangasinan, La Union, Bicol, Davao, Cebu, and Iloilo.

Interested applicants are requested to mail their resumé to:

Code: QC 2002-70
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F St. Anthony's Building
891 Aurora Building corner Oxford Street
Cubao, Quezon City

WE ARE IN URGENT NEED OF APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

1. EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (F)
2. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS (M/F)
3. DEPARTMENT SECRETARY (F)
4. ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS (M/F)
5. SALES EXECUTIVES/TELEMARKETERS (M/F)
6. COMPUTER OPERATORS/DATA ENTRY (M/F)

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR ALL POSITIONS:

- With related experience of at least one (1) year
- Good communication skills in oral & written English
- Above average know-how in basic computer applications especially MS Word and MS Excel
- Aged between 21-30 years (except for #1 with a minimum age requirement of 24)

PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION:

* For walk-in applicants, please bring your updated resumé plus 2x2 photo and certificate/s of employment; Mon-Fri / 9am-4pm
* Via e-mail, please send an application letter with brief resumé to: atmpai@fastmail.i-next.net or atmpai@operamail.com
*For interview appointments, call 812-2654 or 817-3315 and look for Ms. Leah Andres. You may also fax documents at 894-5897.

OUR OFFICE LOCATION:

ATM-PAI, Unit 1610 Cityland 10 Tower 1, 6815 Ayala Avenue corner H.V. dela Costa St., Makati City (near RCBC Plaza/back of GT Tower)

A leading Company is in need of the following skilled personnel:

1 Sales Engineer

- ⇨ Mechanical Engineering graduate
- ⇨ Male (Preferably single)
- ⇨ Will be based in Manila
- ⇨ With at least 1 year experience in selling of tractors
- ⇨ With valid driver's license

1 Sales Engineer

- ⇨ Mechanical/Electrical Engineering graduate
- ⇨ Male
- ⇨ Willing to be assigned in Mindanao or Visayas
- ⇨ Knowledge in Visayan dialect is an advantage
- ⇨ With valid driver's license

1 Product Specialist

- ⇨ Electrical Engineering graduate
- ⇨ With experience in selling or maintenance of generator
- ⇨ With valid driver's license

1 Service & Training Engineer

- ⇨ Male
- ⇨ With at least 2 years experience in developing service center

1 Telemarketer

- ⇨ Female/College level
- ⇨ Computer literate
- ⇨ Must have good communication skills
- ⇨ Must have at least 1 year working experience

Please call 671-9250 / 671-9255 Cell Phone No. 0918-9234738

DALISAY SHIPPING CORPORATION

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
DEPLOYMENT END JUNE 2002

Chief Officer

Qualifications:

- Male
- Not more than 45 years old
- Experience on **Woodchips Carriers** at least 1-2 years
- With COC and endorsement

Apply in person at Dalisay Shipping Corp.
Suite 1002 Ermita Center Bldg., 1350
Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila
Tel. No. 536-4460 / 528-1664 - 65

PIC CAPT. GUILLERMO I. ABRUGENA

No fees to be collected.
Beware of illegal recruiters

URGENTLY NEEDED!

A company engaged in house design, planning, estimation and research is in need of:

SKILLED COMPUTER PROGRAMMER

Qualifications:

1. Male or Female less than 35 years old
2. Must be a graduate of a two or four-year computer course
3. Must have enough knowledge of VISUAL BASIC and/or ACCESS
4. Should be of good moral character and with self-discipline

Note: All applicants are required to take the actual exam.

Interested applicants may bring their curriculum vitae and credentials with 2x2 picture personally from June 10- 15 (Monday to Saturday), 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at:

HRD (S) PTE., LTD.
304B Marbella Manila Bldg.
2071 Roxas Boulevard
Malate, Manila
Tel. No.: 400-6841
Look for: Ms. Finlane Martines

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Administrative Assistant

Are people amazed at your ability to do everything at once?

Well, work for us as Administrative Assistant and you'll have an audience that won't just be amazed, we'll be very appreciative.

We're looking for someone who can keep two Management Executives on track and focused.

The ideal candidate brings a positive, high-energy attitude and superior communication skills. A Bachelor's degree in business, or HR, along with 3+ years of hands-on experience. Flexibility, creativity, and strong computer skills are essential. Preferably female, 24 to 34 years old.

We can't wait to meet you. Mail or deliver your resumé to:

No. 70, 20th Avenue, Murphy, Quezon City
or fax it to 913-0105 or e-mail to mbc_tasco@philwebinc.com

The **WOMEN'S HEALTH & SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROJECT-PARTNERSHIPS COMPONENT**
a project of the Government of the Philippines with funding support from the European Union (EU)

is currently in need of a
SUITABLY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED

ONE SENIOR OPERATIONS RESEARCH CONSULTANT AND TWO JUNIOR OPERATIONS RESEARCH CONSULTANTS
for Its Operations Research Team

Over its five years of operation the Project has gained considerable experience in community health development methodologies, as well as the needs of women in the community. Much quantitative and qualitative data and information has been generated at various levels within the Project, however it has yet to be comprehensively aggregated and analyzed. Similarly, the Project wishes to conduct research on the models it has developed and on the impact of its work with community women and their barangays.

The Project is seeking to recruit one (1) highly qualified and experienced Senior Operations Research Consultant and two (2) Junior Operations Research Consultants, to staff it's Operations Research Unit, which will focus on the conduct of required data management and research and evaluation activities.

Qualifications ~ Senior Operations Research Consultant /Unit Head

1. Extensive experience in the conduct and management of operations research, particularly in the areas of community health development and health service delivery;
2. Extensive and demonstrated experience in research design and in data collection, management and analysis utilizing quantitative and qualitative methodologies/techniques;
3. Relevant academic qualifications and post graduate research experience;
4. Experience in the analysis of primary/public health service systems;
5. Familiarity with both process-driven and rural development projects operating with specific timeframes and targets.

Qualifications ~ Junior Operations Research Consultants

1. Experience in the conduct of operations research, particularly with a social development focus;
2. Experience in research design and in data collection, management and analysis utilizing quantitative and qualitative methodologies/techniques;
3. Relevant academic qualifications and post graduate research experience;
4. Familiarity and experience with computer applications for quantitative and qualitative data analysis.

All consultants will be based in the Project Management Unit in Manila but will be required to undertake considerable travel and field work in the five Project regions (CAR, Bicol, Eastern Visayas, Northern Mindanao, GARAGA). All consultants will have an initial engagement of four months with possibility of fifteen and a half months extension.

ONLY CONSULTANTS WHO MEET THE ABOVE QUALIFICATIONS SHOULD APPLY.

Interested and appropriately qualified Consultants should submit their letter of response and a comprehensive resume on or before **14 June 2002** to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER
Women's Health Project—Partnerships Component
5B Osmena Building, 1991 Mabini Street
Malate, Manila
Fax: (632) 536-6406
E-mail: whsm-pc@pacific.net.ph

WHSMP-PC

INCOHO
PHILIPPINES, INC.
www.incohoinc.ph

INCOHO is a leading Chicago-based call center operator that is focused in accounts receivable management and outsourced collection services. Our client roster includes an international bank, a telecommunications company, and other global marketing organizations. If you are a self-starter looking for a career opportunity in a call center environment, please send your resumé with a cover letter stating the position that you are applying for and a copy of your transcript of records to hr@incohoinc.ph or to our mailing address below:

Training Manager
- Masters Degree in Business or Communications
- At least (2) two years experience in training preferably in sales or customer-service environment
- Experience in credit and collection is a plus

Team Leaders
- Strong leadership skills
- At least (1) one year work experience in supervising and coaching people, preferably in a customer-contact environment or in a multinational company
- Must have all the qualifications for a Collections Officer position

Collections Officers
- College degree, preferably with a major in Business or Communications
- Highly proficient in English (writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills)
- Excellent communication and typing skills
- Exceptional problem solving and negotiation abilities
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office
- Ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously.
- Willing to work at different time zones

Information Technology Officer
- Information Technology degree with at least 2 years experience in system administration including database management and networking
- Working knowledge of HTML, SQL, and security systems
- Good people skills and problem solving skills
- Willing to travel and work at different time zones

Field Collection Officer
- College degree with some experience in collections
- Aggressive and has a good knowledge of Metro Manila's geography
- Possesses the energy and perseverance to work in the field independently

Administrative Assistant
- Excellent encoding and secretarial skills
- Can handle multi-tasking in a fast-paced working environment

Qualified candidates will be asked to complete the following:
- Multi-media test in English language proficiency
- Problem solving and negotiation skills tests
- Interview in key competency areas
- Reference and background checks

For the successful candidates, we offer the following:
- Highly competitive salary PLUS performance-based incentives and bonus
- Medical and dental insurances
- Comprehensive and ongoing training programs
- Working environment that is dynamic, friendly, and highly respectful of the individual

Mailing address: **Director, Recruitment and Training**
3F HatchAsia Global City Center
31st Street corner Second Avenue
e-Square IT Park, Bonifacio S.E.Z.
Taguig City, Metro Manila

MMPI
MEGA MAGAZINES & PUBLICATIONS, INC.

BE PART OF OUR DYNAMIC & EXPANDING TEAM!!! Exciting challenges and career success await you by joining Mega Magazines & Publications, Inc. We are currently in need of professionals with the following qualifications who will fill up these positions.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR, BLUPRINT
- At least 28 years old
- Graduate of Architecture or other related courses
- 1-2 years experience in editorial work

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS
- Graduate of Fine Arts, Major in Advertising
- 2-3 years experience in print design
- Proficient in QuarkExpress or Freehand (Mac-based)

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS
- Graduate of Journalism or other related courses
- At least 2 years experience in editorial work
- Excellent editing and writing skills

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
- Graduate of Marketing, MassComm, or related courses
- Outstanding interpersonal, oral communications, and presentation skills

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS
- Graduate of any four-year business course
- Preferably with experience in office management

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
- At least 28 years old
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least 3 years experience general accounting

EVENTS COORDINATORS
- Graduate of Marketing, MassComm, or related courses
- Experience conceptualizing & organizing events
- Outstanding interpersonal skills

HR OFFICERS
- Not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of Psychology or other related courses
- At least 2 years experience in HR Operations

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
- 25 to 35 years old
- At least 2 years experience in office mgt
- With proven leadership and people mgt skills
- Proficient in MSWord, Excel, PowerPoint

PHOTO EDITORS
- Graduate of Fine Arts or other related courses
- Preferably with experience in architectural photography

Interested parties may hand carry or mail their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to:

The Human Resources Manager
Mega Magazines & Publications, Inc.
18th Floor, Strata 100 Building, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

---

A power generation company is in need of the following:

RESULTS ENGINEER (code: RE#01)
Shall supervise the performance monitoring and engineering test functions of all plant equipment..
- Licensed Mechanical, Electrical or Marine Engineer;
- 27-40 yrs. old
- 3 years supervisory experience in Medium Speed Diesel Engine Operation and Maintenance.
- Strong technical skills in power plant operating processes; data gathering and evaluation of plant equipment operating performance, preparation of reports and operating & test procedure.
- Computer literate (Microsoft Office, database software)
- Good communication, interpersonal and analytical skills

(2) PLANT MECHANICS (code: PM#01)
Shall perform preventive and corrective maintenance of all mechanical equipment, including maintenance work orders.
- Mechanical, Marine or Trade graduate preferably Certified Plant Mechanic or equivalent
- 24 – 35 yrs old
- At least 2 years related work experience preferably in diesel power plant
- Knowledgeable in troubleshooting, repair of automatic diesel engines & auxiliary equipment
- Good communication & analytical skills.
- With working knowledge in standard operating procedures in dismantling/assembling engine components and auxiliary equipment of diesel power plant

MACHINE SHOP & RECONDITIONING MECHANIC (code: MSRM#01)
Shall perform welding and machining jobs in any equipment/machines, prepare, secure and maintain welding tools & equipment, and perform simple fixtures fabrication.
- Mechanical, Marine Engineering or Trade graduate preferably Certified Plant Mechanic, Certified Welder or equivalent
- 24 – 35 yrs old
- Certified welder ; At least 2 years experience in similar capacity
- Knowledgeable in all welding works, operations of machine shop equipment and fabrication jobs.
- Good communication & analytical skills

ELECTRICAL & INSTRUMENTATION SPECIALIST (code: EIS#01)
Shall perform preventive and corrective maintenance of all electrical, instrumentation and controls equipment, including maintenance work orders.
- Licensed Electrical, Electronics Engineer or Engineering Technology or equivalent
- 24- 35 yrs old ; At least 3 years related experience
- Good working knowledge with blueprints, schematics and instruction manuals; Familiar with Phil. Electrical Code
- Good knowledge in electrical, instrumentation, control equipment, logic operations, specifications of operating values, designs and trend out service life.
- Computer literate (MS Office)

*Please send application letter with detailed resume, photographs and credentials no later than **June 24, 2002.***

Human Resources Department
P.O. Box No. 1746
Makati City

Note: Indicate outside the envelope position code #.

RCMagno
Group of Companies

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
- Male BS Marketing Graduate
- Aggressive and Hardworking
- Driving Skills / License is a plus factor

ACCOUNTING CLERK / STOCKMAN
- Male BS Accounting Graduate
- With High Scholastic Records
- Experience in Warehouse/Stock Inventory is plus factor

GRAPHIC ARTIST
- Fine Arts Graduate or equivalent experience as Graphic Artist
- Proficient with Adobe Photoshop, Corel Draw, and other Graphics Software

PART-TIME COMPUTER PROGRAMMER
- Computer Science Graduate
- With at least 3 years work-related experience

TELEPHONE OPERATORS / TELEMARKETERS
- Female, single, not more than 28 years old
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Computer literate

WELDERS
- 5 years experience in Metal Crafts/Steel Fabrication
- Knowledge in all types of Welding Operation

Apply in person at:
CHROME DAZZLER ENTERPRISES
67 P. Tuazon Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City
Bring Resumé and other Credentials

URGENTLY NEEDED

YOUNG ARTIST
whose artworks or illustrations are highly influenced by Norman Rockwell.

Please apply in person and bring your samples of artwork at

7/F Magsaysay Building
520 T.M. Kalaw Street
Ermita, Manila

Look for
May C. Gomez

A BOI-REGISTERED MANUFACTURING COMPANY LOCATED IN LAGUNA, ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING OF PLASTIC PARTS, WOULD LIKE TO INVITE HIGHLY MOTIVATED INIDIVIDUAL TO BE THE

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
(Code: HRM)

Male/Female, not more than 40 years old; Graduate of Behavioral Science or other related field, preferably an MA degree holder with extensive experience in developing & implementing programs and policies in all areas of training, recruitment, performance appraisal, job evaluation, career development, compensation and benefits;

He/She must have a thorough grasp of the Philippines Labor laws as well as existing industry standards and practices; must be highly organized, results-oriented, and attentive to details;

ASSISTANT PLANNING MANAGER
(Code: APM)

Male/Female, not more than 35 years old; Graduate of Engineering, preferably Industrial Engineering with substantial experience in handling production control and material control supervision to optimize company resources;

Aside from strong analytical skills, he/she must have a keen sense of judgment especially in forecasting possible events related to work; Highly organized and exudes a mature disposition and the capability to orchestrate team activities, and possesses a well-developed customer relations;

TO THE IDEAL CANDIDATE, WE OFFER COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS PACKAGE AS WELL AS BROAD OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAREER GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO WRITE IN CONFIDENCE, INDICATING BRIEF SALARY OBJECTIVE, WITH COMPREHENSIVE RESUME AND RECENT 2x2 PICTURE, NOT LATER THAN **JUNE 15, 2002**, ADDRESSED TO:

Code: _____
P.O. Box No. 2177
Makati Central Post Office
Makati City

Beluso-Soriano & Associates
National Grand Job Opening!!!

In cooperation of AVP's,Managers and company staff s

73 GRADUATES OF:PT,OT,RT,,Nursing & any MEDICAL courses
68 GRADUATES OF:IE,ECE,EE,ME,Archi,ComEng,ComSci,etc.
53 GRADUATES OF: Commerce,HRM,Tourism,Educ & BScourses

Available Positions:
Junior Managers, Account Managers,
Management Trainees, Account Executives, etc.
Male / Female, 19-45 years old, licensed or non-licensed
Fresh Graduates are welcome to apply!!!

50 Ex-OFW from Taiwan, Saudi, Middle East, Japan, Hongkong, US, etc. recently arrived (Sept. 2001-April 2002) are welcome to apply.

All interested applicants may apply personally with comprehensive resume, original credentials & 2x2 photo on June 10-28,2002 at:

Office of the Director
Unit 3 G/F, 235-C Mercan Bldg., EDSA Ext. Pasay City
(walking distance from MRT/LRT EDSA Station going to Roxas Blvd, near Savers Square Dept Store, beside Allied Bank & Jianshe)

Look for: Mr. Alex , GSM

Note We are open on June 12!Staple this ad to your resume!!!

Industrial Galvanizers Corporation of the Phils.

A multi-national firm based in Cavite, engaged in Galvanizing and Steel Poles Fabrication is looking for a highly competent people to fill in key positions in the organization and play a major role in its growth and development.

PRODUCTION ENGINEER

- Industrial Engineering graduate
- Female, 22-27 years old
- Computer literate and familiar with flow charts
- Supervisory experience is an advantage
- With high level of maturity
- Analytic, problem solver & very keen in details

SALES & MARKETING COORDINATOR

- Industrial Engineering graduate
- Male 25-35 years old
- Computer literate
- Supervisory experience is an advantage
- Exposure in the field of sales & marketing is a MUST
- Willing to be assigned in Cavite

If you think you are the person we need, you may submit or fax your comprehensive resumé and transcript of records on or before **14 June 2002 to the HR & Admin Officer, Industrial Galvanizers Corporation of the Philippines, Brgy. Conchu Trece Martires City, Cavite. For inquiries, please call 046-4191837 or fax at 046-4191829.**

If you are
.... single, male, 20 to 30 years old
.... college graduate

and posses the following:
.... good communication skills and interpersonal skills
....capability to drive
.... willingness to travel from time to time
.... strong determination to succeed and has the ability to have fun in everything you do.

APPLY NOW !!!

Corporate Recruitment
RAMCAR CENTER
80-82 Roces Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City

** Previous applicants need not apply*

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JOIN OUR POWERFUL SALES TEAM

What's in store for you?

We give our employees opportunities to explore their potentials by offering them an environment that will give them the chance to learn the latest trends and techniques in SALES.

Thus, this will equip them in handling a MANAGEMENT position upon successful completion of the training program.

Danfoss

- is a world leader in manufacturing industrial control components such as Frequency Converters, Flowmeters, Valves, and Compressors. DANFOSS is a trend-setter within the field of Refrigeration and Air-conditioning. We are represented in more than 120 countries and has over 20,000 employees worldwide. For our Philippine subsidiary, we urgently need:

Refrigeration Support Engineer

Are you:

- ☑ Engineering graduate with refrigeration background
- ☑ Having a minimum 3 years experience with CFC and HCFC refrigeration installations
- ☑ Minded for selling to and supporting the best refrigeration professionals in the Philippines
- ☑ Confident with conducting technical presentations
- ☑ Looking for new challenges in a dynamic, young, international team of colleagues
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Then we offer:

- ☑ A position as Support Engineer in our Refrigeration Department
- ☑ A comprehensive program of continuous training locally and abroad
- ☑ A remuneration package that matches your qualifications

Reference code: RSE

Accounting Assistant

- ☑ BS Accountancy graduate
- ☑ At least 2 years experience in working with:
  - preparing/recording of daily accounting transactions
  - government reports such as SSS, HDMF, BIR
  - cost accounting
  - preparation of periodic management reports
- ☑ Preferably with reporting experience from a multinational company
- ☑ Experienced in the MS Office package—Excel is a must

Reference code: AA

Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumé and 2x2 ID picture indicating the Reference code in their application, by post or fax on or before June 16, 2002:

DANFOSS INC.
Km 18 East Service Road, South Super Highway
Sucat, Parañaque, Metro Manila
Tel.: 838-4591; Fax: 838-6626

Send your resumés instantly.
JOBMarket ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

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The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

SERVICE ENGINEER

- Graduate of Computer Engineering
- 6 months to one year experience on this job
- Knowledge of computer operations systems, desktop applications, troubleshooting skills, basic knowledge in networking.

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets,
Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

GC Asia Dental invites applicants for

GS Sales Manager for the Phils.

Responsibilities:
1. Planning, organizing & leading all the activities in the Philippine market and be responsible for results
2. Develop short & long-term marketing & sales plans for the GC product range
3. Coordinate with dealers & customers

Requirements:
1. Excellent communication skills; computer literate
2. Assertive, analytical & results-oriented
3. An experience in the dental industry is an advantage
4. Basic managerial skills and experience

Qualified & interested applicants, please e-mail application letter and brief resumé to betsydoc@manila-online.net or fax to 934-0014.

WANTED

WATER TREATMENT PROCESS/ APPLICATIONS ENGINEER

who will be responsible in the preparation of the design for the following technologies:

- Pretreatment - sand, multimedia
- Membrane system - RO, UF, NF, MF
- Ion Exchange - Softening, demineralization, dealkalization, decarbonization
- Disinfection - UV, Ozone, chlorination

Applicant must be:
- A graduate of B.S. in CHE or related course, with sufficient experience and proficiency in his field of expertise.
- Of good moral character.
- Must be 25-35 years of age.
- Male or Female.

Please send resumé to the following address:

Sterling Fluid Systems Philippines, Inc.
Km. 25 West Service Road, South Superhighway,
Alabang, Muntinlupa City

SALON SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT INC.

MANAGER OF PIANDRE & GEM SALONS NEEDS IMMEDIATELY:

Salon Managers
Marketing Assistants

- College Graduate
- Female, at least 5'1" in height
- With pleasing personality
- Fluent in English

Please submit resumé together with 2x2 colored picture, Transcript of Records, NBI and Barangay Clearance and SSS Number to:

G/F CSJ Building 105 Aguirre St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 812-4864; 813-0240

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

By a progressive Japanese firm

❶ CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

- ✓ Male/Female, 22 to 40 years old
- ✓ Minimum 2 years experience in auditing and accounting practice
- ✓ Computer literate
- ✓ Must be willing to travel
- ✓ Background in handling PEZA registered companies an ADVANTAGE

❷ HR/ADMIN MANAGERS

- ✓ College graduate
- ✓ Must have at least 3 years HR/Admin managerial functions
- ✓ Excellent oral and written communication skills
- ✓ Background in Law an ADVANTAGE
- ✓ At least 30 to 45 years old

Kindly send or submit resumés with photo and other credentials to

Legal Information Network Corporation
4F 111 Paseo de Roxas Building
Paseo de Roxas corner Legaspi Streets
Legaspi Village, Makati City
or e-mail to linchrd@info.com.ph
Inquiry 817-8470

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT THE WEB IS ONLY USED FOR SWINGING FROM ONE BUILDING TO ANOTHER...

THEN WE DON'T NEED YOU!

We are looking for Web Enthusiasts who are willing to make others understand what the Web is all about...
We are looking for Web Enthusiasts who can help build web solutions for companies and organization...
We are looking for people who are willing to Evangelize about their WEB...

If you satisfy the following criteria:

- degree holder in Business, IT, or Communications
- possess excellent verbal and written communication skills
- considerable experience in executive selling, direct selling, tele-marketing, or account management
- interested in software and hardware technology
- quick learner, achievement oriented, goal driven

then take up the challenge... send us your resumé through (e-mail) career@v-ecom.com, or (fax) 02-7248121, or deliver it by hand to Reception Lobby, Textron Bldg., 168 Luna Mencias St., San Juan, MM.

Successful applicants may be assigned as E-Business Consultants or Sales Support Specialists.

Philippine Virtual E-Commerce Corporation

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FAST-GROWING, GLOBALLY-AFFILIATED AUDITING & CONSULTANCY FIRM

URGENTLY NEEDS

THREE (3) SENIOR AUDITORS

- Certified Public Accountant - With
- At least Two (2) Years Experience in Auditing or General Accounting
- Computer Know-How (Word/Excel)

FIVE (5) JUNIOR AUDITORS

- BS-Accountancy, BSC-BSBA Graduate
- Preferably w/ Work Experience
- W/ Computer Know-How (Word/Excel)

WITH HIGHLY COMPETITIVE SALARIES/BENEFITS
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APPLY NOW AT - (W/ BIO-DATA)

A.P. ACYATAN & CO., CPAs DFK
(Philippine Member Firm - DFK International)
Suite 2-E Columbian International Towers
#500 Santol Street, Sta. Mesa, Manila
Tel. # 716-5754 to 55, 716-5713
Fax # (632) 716-5693
e-mail: acyatan@cyberhip.ph

V-eCOM
Virtual E-Commerce Philippines
An I.T. Enabler

is looking for

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES AND SALES SUPPORT SPECIALISTS

Qualifications:

- A Degree holder in Business or Communications
- Possess excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Considerable experience in executive selling, direct selling, tele-marketing or account management
- Interested in software and hardware technology
- Quick learner, achievement-oriented, goal driven

Send us your resume through (e-mail) career@v-ecom.com, or (fax) 02-7248121, or deliver it by hand to Reception Lobby, Textron Bldg., Luna Mencias St., San Juan, M.M.

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OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB MARKET

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Rustan's

urgently needs...

HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST - TRAINING

- ☑ Female, at least 26 years old
- ☑ Graduate of Business Management or any Social Science course, preferably with inclinations in business
- ☑ Minimum of one (1) year experience in human resources focusing on career development and training
- ☑ With strong leadership qualities, high initiative and organizational skills
- ☑ Must have the potential to work in all areas of HR with minimum supervision
- ☑ Must be people-oriented, mature, analytical and highly motivated
- ☑ Must be able to adapt to a fast working environment
- ☑ Proficient in English communication and computer programs

MARKETING SERVICES MANAGER

- ☑ Female, at least 25 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any (4) four-year business related course, preferably with an MBA degree
- ☑ With at least (2) two-year work experience in marketing/retail exposure focusing on events and PR
- ☑ Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- ☑ Must be analytical, results-oriented, artistic creative and with good fashion sense
- ☑ Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- ☑ Must be computer literate

Those who meet the qualifications mentioned may send their comprehensive resumé with contact number, transcript of records and a recent 2x2 photo to:

RUSTAN'S HEAD OFFICE
G/F Rustan Building, EDSA, Mandaluyong City

BusinessTrends
A KELLY SERVICES COMPANY

We are a Global Staffing Company with over 2,300 offices in 30 countries worldwide servicing 80 percent of the Fortune Top 500 Companies. We are looking for highly qualified executives to fill in the following positions for our prestigious list of clients.

VICE PRESIDENT - OPERATIONS

We are looking for someone who is a licensed Mechanical/Electrical/Civil Engineer with experience in plant operations for at least seven (7) years. Business Development function is also critical to the position. The person must be challenged to expand the operations of the business and must be target driven, mature, and can handle extreme work pressure.

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

We are looking for someone with good communication and people skills; preferably an executive with well-rounded background and experience in Operations, HR and Administration & Marketing and Sales. Business Development function is also critical to the position and knowledge in Finance is an advantage. The person must be challenged to expand the operations of the business and must be target driven.

TRAINING INSTITUTE DIRECTOR

Our company is looking for a person who has had at least 4 years experience as a Training Consultant preferably in call center operations. The person must also possess the ability to manage a Training School or an Institute.

PROPERTY MANAGER

Our company is looking for a person who has had at least 5 years experience as a Property Consultant preferably in technical service related industries. The person must also possess the ability to manage a dynamic team.

FINANCE MANAGER

We are searching for a CPA with at least 3 to 4 years experience in financial analysis, budgeting, cost analysis, audit, general accounting, and internal control work. The person must be able to manage people and can handle client relations.

CORPORATE SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

We are in need of a person who has had corporate and institutional selling experience for at least 5 years. The person must be able to handle a sales team that is performance driven and can handle top corporate accounts. An engineering background is an advantage.

CORPORATE LEGAL COUNSEL

We are in search of a licensed lawyer with at least 2-4 years background in labor and corporate law practice. Knowledge in Personnel and Administration functions is an advantage.

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESUME TO:
1603 JOLLIBEE PLAZA, EMERALD AVE., ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY TEL. (632) 631-3109
E-MAIL: biphils@vasia.com WEBSITE: www.businesstrends.com.sg

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TOYOTA

DO YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THE DEALER OF CHOICE?...
then here's the one you're waiting for!

We are in search of Top Caliber Teammembers to fill in our Job Vacancies

1. FIELD MARKETING PROFESSIONALS
- male or female not more than 30 years old
- 5'4" in height for female and 5'7" for male
- graduate of any 4 year course
- with good communication skills and pleasing personality
- with excellent marketing skills, smart and customer oriented

2. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
- preferably female, not more than 35 years old
- at least 5'4" in height
- preferably 4 year secretarial course graduate from a reputable school
- with excellent scholastic records and proficient in computer
- with excellent oral and written communication skills
- with pleasing personality

3. BUILDING A/C TECHNICIAN / ELECTRICIAN
- technical school graduate major in air-con and electrical
- male, not more than 35 years old
- must have at least 2-3 years experience in electrical/air-con aspects
- hardworking, dependable and willing to work for long hours
- physically fit

4. AUTOMOTIVE / AIR-CON TECHNICIAN
- male, not more than 27 years old
- graduate of automotive or any other related course
- with 3 years experience in the same field of work
- hardworking, patient and willing to work for long hours
- physically fit

So don't miss this kind of opportunity! Interested applicants may apply and send or bring their resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 photograph at:

TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS
HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICE
124 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Bo. Ugong, Pasig City
humanresource@toyotashaw.com.ph

NOTE: PREVIOUS APPLICANT NEED NOT APPLY.

IMMEDIATE JOB OPENING AT MAKATI OFFICE

PS Bank Tower
Suite 808 8th Floor
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
(Beside Makati Post Office)

WE NEED:
- ✓ College graduates of at least 4 year course from reputable schools and universities
- ✓ Energetic men and women of at least 20-38 years of age
- ✓ Individuals who have a good command of English or Chinese Language
- ✓ Those who are ready to undergo comprehensive company training & can work at once

THEN YOU DESERVE:
- ✓ **A STARTING PAY OF ABOVE AVERAGE INCOME**
- ✓ Company sponsored travels (here and abroad)
- ✓ Career development and growth with our automatic promotion system

See us in your proper business attire with 2 pcs. (2x2) ID pictures and your comprehensive resumé on ***June 10, 11, 12 & 13 (Mon.-Thurs.) from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*** bring extra ID and the clipping of this ad. (Presently employed and enrolled need not apply)

BE PART OF OUR TEAM!

Virtual Video Net Inc., a master franchisee of **Video City** is now inviting new applicants who are confident, extremely enthusiastic and persistent to learn, to show us their potentials and skills so that these may be harnessed to the fullest.

Young individuals living within **Marikina, Cavite** and **Laguna** are highly needed to fill the positions of **TEAM MEMBERS** and **MANAGEMENT TRAINEES.**

TEAM MEMBER
- 18 - 22 years old
- Male or Female
- Full time employee
- At least college level
- With pleasing and dynamic personality
- Willing to do a multi tasking job
- Experience in customer related field is an advantage

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
- 20 - 23 years old
- Male or Female
- Graduate of 4-year business-related course
- Full time employee
- With at least 1 year experience in customer related field is an advantage
- Willing to do a multi tasking job
- Single or married

If you think you've got what it takes to be a part of this team then send us your resumés and bio-data with contact numbers at the following Video City stores:

VIDEO CITY - MARIKINA
JNL BLDG., UNO BAYAN-BAYANAN AVENUE, CONCEPCION MARIKINA CITY

VIDEO CITY - LAGUNA
NATIONAL ROAD, BALIBAGO IV, STA. ROSA, LAGUNA

VIDEO CITY - CAVITE
SM BACOOR - TIRONA HI-WAY, BACOOR, CAVITE

Or send your resumés through e-mail: vvnlhrd@yahoo.com

We DISCOURAGE walk-in applicants!!!

An Established Network Marketing Co. (MLM) invites suitably qualified and experienced individuals, to fill up the following key positions:

HRD ASSISTANT
- ☑ Male/Female, between 25 to 30 years old
- ☑ Graduate of Psychology or any Behavioral Science course
- ☑ Highly organized, with strong interpersonal communication skills and results-oriented
- ☑ With at least 1 year experience in recruitment, benefits administration and familiar with SSS, BIR, HDMF and Labor Laws
- ☑ Computer literate

MARKETING ASSISTANT
- ☑ Male/Female, 22 to 25 years old
- ☑ Graduate of paramedical course preferably Pharmacy, Nutrition or Nursing (fresh graduates are welcome)
- ☑ Trainable and with good verbal communication skill

RECEPTIONIST / TELEPHONE OPERATOR
- ☑ Female, at least 5'3" in height
- ☑ 22 to 28 years old
- ☑ College Graduate
- ☑ With pleasing personality and good verbal communication skill
- ☑ With 1 to 2 years related experience from a service industry

The Sr. Marketing Manager
Third Floor, EDMARK Building, No. 355 P. Tuazon Boulevard
Corner 21st Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. No.: 913-5515
E-mail: edmark@pacific.net.ph

SIZZLING PLATE & CHICKEN CO. ARE IN NEED OF HIGHLY MOTIVATED, DEDICATED & TRUSTWORTHY INDIVIDUAL TO BE PART OF US.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
- Female, at least 28 years old
- College graduate of BS Psychology or Human Resource Management
- Knowledgeable in recruitment & labor code
- Has good interpersonal skills
- With at least 3 years managerial experience

OUTLET SUPERVISOR
- Female, at least 28 years old
- College graduate, preferably food related course
- With at least 2 years supervisory experience in food service
- Preferably residents of Fairview, Manila, Las Piñas and Bacoor

INVENTORY CREW
- Female, not over 25 years old
- College graduate of any food related course
- With experience in similar capacity

COOK
- Male, not over 35 years old
- At least 2nd year College and 5'4" in height
- Preferably with experience in fastfood business

CASHIER
- Female, over 25 years old
- At least 2nd year College
- Knowledge in OMRON / CASIO machine is a must

COUNTER CREW
- Female, not over 25 years old with pleasing personality
- At least 2nd year College and 5'2" in height

Apply immediately in person and bring your comprehensive resumé with 2x2 photo and any other necessary documents at Unit 15 Midland Manor I (in front of Gate 4, Xavier School) Xavier St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila.

WebFocus Solutions, Inc — **A fast rising IT company is looking for the ff:**

Account Executives

Responsibilities:
To offer website solutions to different businesses, and organizations

Benefits:
- 8,000 monthly allowance
- Sales commissions of at least 9,000 a month - can be a lot more!
- Opportunities to meet new people from various fields
- Personal growth and excitement in the field of IT

Qualifications:
- 21 to 28 years old, Male or female with a college degree
- Must have field-related sales experience
- Must be aggressive, self-driven, and hardworking
- Good communication skills
- Possesses excellent time-management skills
- Responsible and of good moral character
- Pleasing looks and personality
- Enjoys doing fieldwork

Web Developer

Responsibilities:
To develop websites as required by clients

Benefits:
- Above average package with profit sharing
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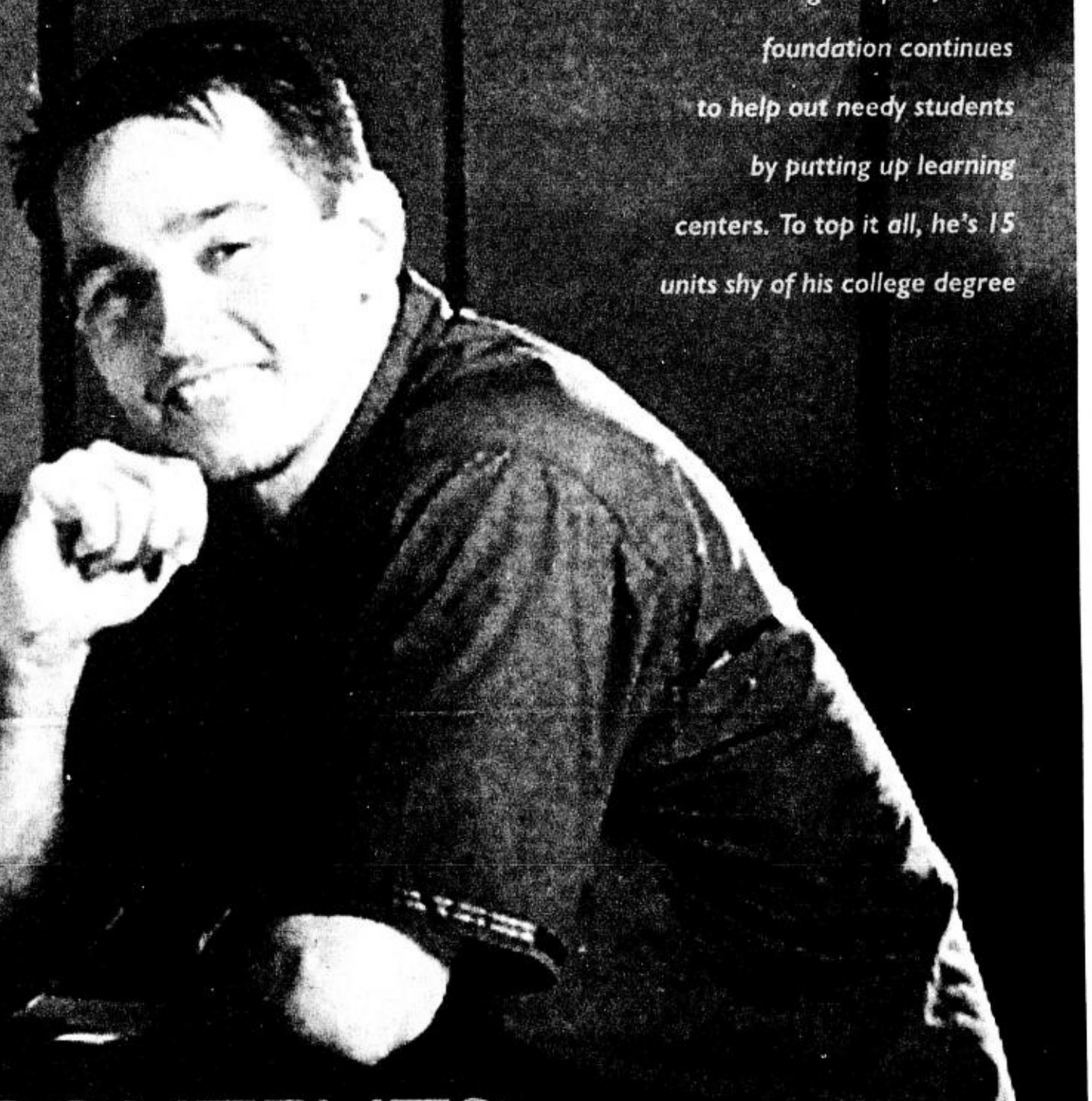
sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
June 9, 2002

PBA glamor boy Vince Hizon, has education at the top of his game plan, as his foundation continues to help out needy students by putting up learning centers. To top it all, he's 15 units shy of his college degree

Vince Hizon

The Happy Prince



By Ruel S. De Vera
Photograph by Mike Alquinto

HE is everything you imagined a basketball star to be. It appears as though Vince Hizon had been carved out of Grecian marble and had the basketball gods breathe life into him. Standing a chiseled 6'2" with his full court charm and game-winning smile, Vince, dubbed "The Prince" by broadcasters, has a game worthy of his movie-star looks, playing as a headliner in the Philippine Basketball Association. Now with the Batang Red Bull Thunder, the 31-year-old Filipino-American swingman is putting his money where his mind is.

Though he is well known for his on-court talent, Vince is also the founder of the Vince Hizon Foundation Partners in Education, a non-stock, non-profit organization that sets up learning centers in needy schools. "To me, it doesn't matter how much money or fame you have," Vince explains. "Without your education, you're nothing."

That's why Vince has expanded his heroics off the court, doing his part to help underprivileged students. "I have always wanted to help others and give something back to people and my fans," Vince explains, "and I look at this as something concrete, something that would contribute to their life."

Vicente Paul Nicholas Bowie Hizon was born in Fullerton, California on November 25, 1970, the youngest of six children of a nurse (Harriet Bowie) and a rocket scientist (Jose Hizon). "My dad was an aeronautical engineer who worked on the space shuttle and the Apollo 11 mission that went to the moon," Vince explains.

Vince grew up shuttling between Orange County and Davao, a true child of two countries. "I watched my first basketball game when I was three months old and I've been playing basketball ever since I can remember." He excelled in basketball since childhood, starring for Mater Dei High School in Sta. Ana, California, where the Ateneo Blue Eagles recruited him. He finished high school in 1988. "I was all set to fly to the Philippines, had my passport and ticket, but I got chicken pox the week I was to leave." Not wanting to miss any school time, Vince enrolled in Cypress Community College for two years and also played for Boise State University in Idaho. "I wanted to come back to the Philippines, and finally I got to come here to study." In 1992, he arrived in the country and, after sitting out his residency year, played for the Blue Eagles in the University Athletic Association of the Philippines.

A biology major, Vince decided to turn pro in 1994 but was determined to stay in school even as he was drafted by the

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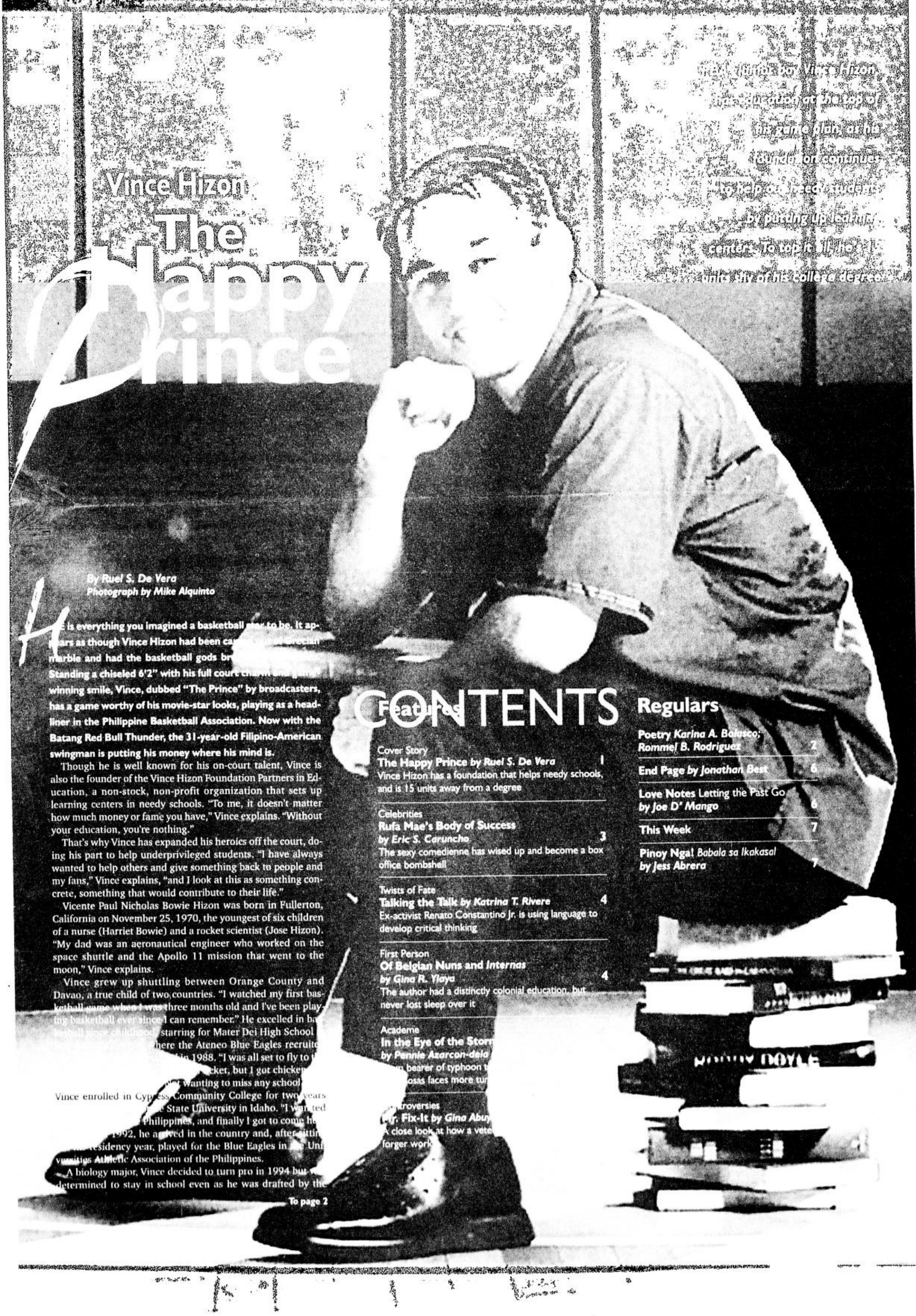
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

Vince Hizon The Happy Prince

Vince Hizon is on track to finish his college degree by pursuing his dream of building a foundation that helps needy students by putting up learning centers. To top it all, he is 15 units away from a degree.



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Vince

...from page 1

Purefoods franchise. "I looked at it as a win-win situation because if I succeeded, I would achieve my dream of playing professional basketball, but if not, at least I tried. It was a window of opportunity I couldn't miss." He tried to continue his schooling and go on leave intermittently the next few years. Vince had to because of the rigors of the game schedule and due to time spent as a co-host of ABS-CBN's "Sports Unlimited." But he was also determined to get his Ateneo degree. "School is something that remained important to me," Vince says, adding that education was always important in his family. After all, the starting lineup of his siblings includes a school principal, a lawyer and an orthopedic surgeon, "I wasn't the best student, but I worked harder than a lot of people, and the regard I have for education I also apply to basketball."

Meanwhile, Vince achieved true hardcourt stardom when he was traded to Ginebra San Miguel (for Nonoy Chuatico and a draft pick) in 1995 after one year with Purefoods. As a tough, high-scoring starter for the Gins, Vince became one of the most popular players in the league during his four-year stint with the La Tondeña franchise. "I had a great time there, playing under Senator Robert Jaworski," he recalls. When Ginebra declined to offer him a new contract after his previous one expired, Vince spent some time with the Metropolitan Basketball Association before hooking up with Red Bull back in the PBA for this past Samsung Governor's Cup. "I always felt the PBA was my home. I was very fortunate to have this opportunity to play with Red Bull and I look at it as a homecoming." Vince played on three national teams, and the Southeast Asian Gold Medal he won remains his proudest basketball achievement. "I look at my life in basketball as a dream come true. I mean, they pay me to play. Can you believe that? In business, you don't get a chance to prove yourself night in and night out."

But life has been about more than basketball. Vince first began to think about the impact one cager can have when he was with the Gins in 1998. He explains that AC Nielsen had a survey that year and Filipino youth named him their favorite sports figure, even more popular than Michael Jordan. Watching that report on TV, Vince pondered if there was something positive he could do aside from study and play basketball.

"It's one thing to give people something, but it's another to give them something they can use to help themselves." Last year, he thought about putting up a foundation that would help out needy high school and grade school students, focusing on education. Not wasting any time, he went ahead and registered the Vince Hizon Foundation with the Securities and Exchange Commission. "I was surprised to find out that my foundation was the first to be put up by a basketball player."

Vince's foundation finds needy public schools in the provinces and sets up a learning center, providing books and computers that, according to Vince, "the students would otherwise not have access to." The Foundation donates books and an average of five to eight computers per school. The Foundation has already established learning centers in Davao, Palawan and General Santos City with a fourth center being built in Cebu.

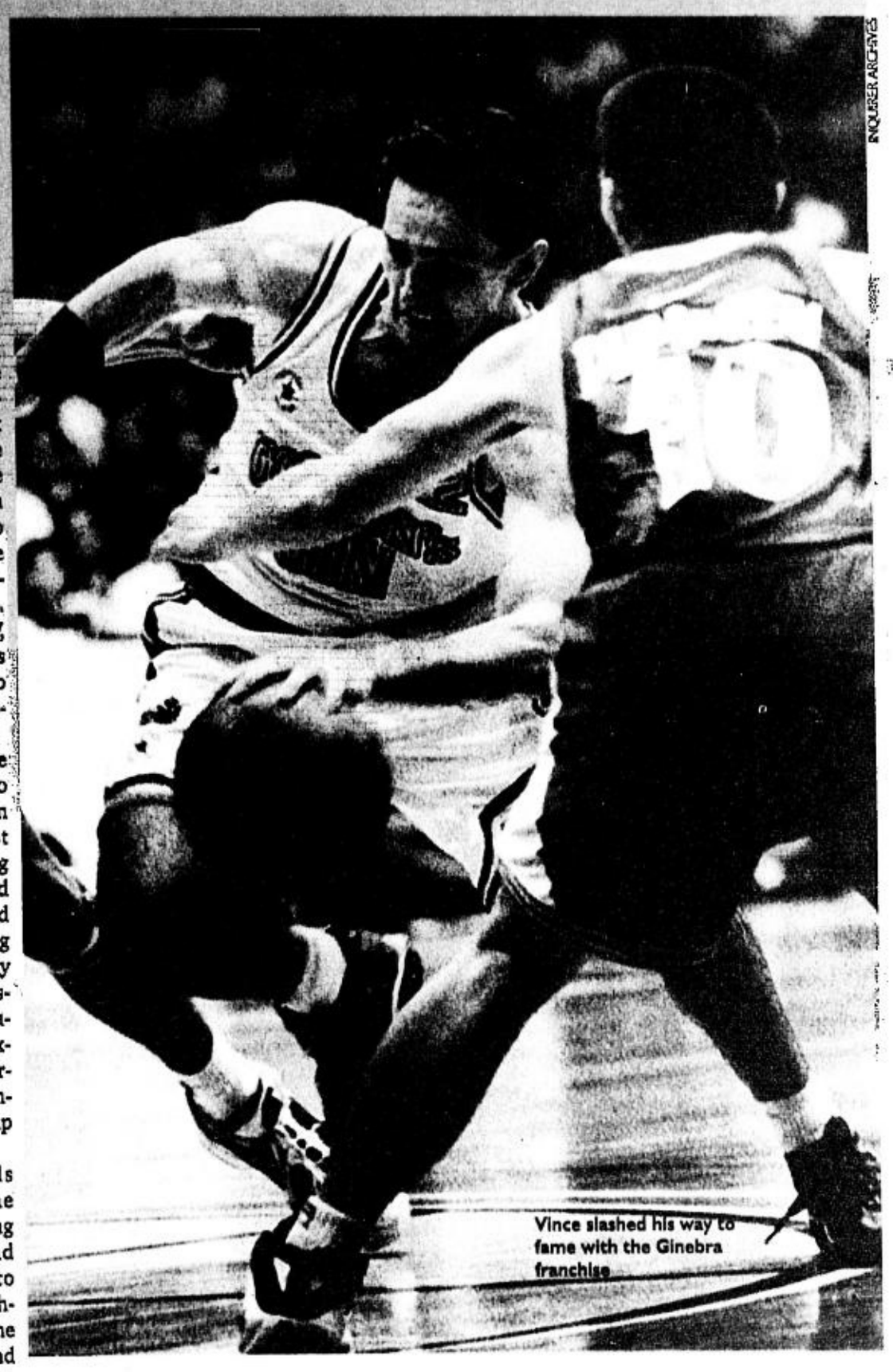
Vince donates part of his salary to the Foundation and also generates funds through events like last year's "Vince Hizon Foundation Celebrity Basketball Game" and "Martin's Evening...for a Cause," a concert featuring balladeer Martin Nievera. "The response has been very good, so far, so good." The Foundation's most recent project is its involvement, together with Warner Music, in a CD called "Build It Up," featuring 10 cuts from popular recording artists like Pops Fernandez and Rachel Alejandro, with the proceeds benefiting the Vince Hizon Foundation and the Francis Padua-Papica Foundation.

And that college degree remains a major priority for him. Now, having switched to Interdisciplinary Studies with clusters in Communication and Natural Sciences, Vince has since returned to the Ateneo and is now only 15 units away from finishing. "I'm writing my thesis this year," he beams. In his young life, Vince has tasted the best of all worlds possible: the rush of athletic glory, a stroll through the halls of the academe, the glow of TV and the satisfaction of knowing he really can, in that existential goal of idealistic youth, make a difference.

Between basketball, his foundation and school, Vince has very little time left to himself. "People think basketball is so easy, but it's really hard doing it every day, so you have to devote a lot of time to it," noting that basketball isn't just games. There are weight-lifting sessions, meetings and practices. Because of all this, Vince has learned to manage his time wisely. "If something's important you have to make time for it," he states. On the personal front, Vince, who previously was seeing top equestrienne Toni Leviste (they remain good friends) says he's still single and doesn't see marriage in the immediate future. In other words, Vince is setting his priorities straighter than his aim on a buzzer-beating three-point shot.

"This is something that I see myself doing long into my gray years," Vince concludes. "I'm just trying to use what basketball has given me to do these things, using my influence on the youth in a positive direction, and there's really nothing more positive than education."

For details and donations, log on to www.vincehizonfoundation.org



INQUIRER ARCHIVES

Vince slashed his way to fame with the Ginebra franchise

Courtesy of the Vince Hizon Foundation

The popular cager has always made it a point to help out and inspire students

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The Cover Image PBA glamor boy Vince Hizon shares the blessing of education through his foundation
Photograph by Mike Alquinto

POETRY

Wise Woman Twice

"Life is a festival only to the wise."
Ralph Waldo Emerson

She must have come into this world
with a luminous map in her head.
Of pathways yet to tread
to skins yet to shed.
Wise from her mother's womb,
She is never ever stranded.
Even a crisis night
cracks for her light
that glows bright on footways
held sacred by centuries-old acacias.
Wise with the wind of seas that almost carries her.
Leaves of mint and basil,
blossoms of cherry and banana
crown her head,
furnace to inflammable thoughts
that at times burn words beyond telling.
So then must her own hands and feet of grace,
Hang out from the finest, faintest of silk
And speak them in bold strokes and shades.
Sketch, Dance, Sew, Sing, Bead, Lace.
Sway them, turn them, around and around.
Wise body that nourishes the spirit.

She would not have just the real world.
Too predictable, she pronounces.
She waits and sees
sunlight does not lie still
on the river's skin.
It pierces it
And then bounces out back to the horizon.
Wise thinking of the first kind,
Her fires are not hidden,
Her movements, electric.
That the flock of downtrodden
Begin to be consumed too.
With faiths replenished,
they finally locate their core.
Hers is all the lives
We dreamt to live.
Wise woman twice, tugging at our souls.

Karina Africa Bolasco
November 16, 2001
On the occasion of the ALIWW Parangal
for Gilda Cordero Fernando

Poetry

Ambon sa Katanghaliang-tapat

Tuwing naiisip kong tumula
At manghuli ng mga talinhaga
Sa mga butil ng ambong
Dumadaplis sa aking balat,
Namamangha ako sa sidhayang
Iginuguhit ng mga dagtang
Mula sa langit.
Niyayakap ako ng hamog
Na pananggalang sa lamig;
Tinutuyo ang basang anggi
Dulot ng luhang tumatakas
Sa nakapinid kong mga talukap.
Malambot at payapa
Ang patak ng ambon sa katanghaliang-tapat.
Sapat sa aruga ang bawat butil
Na may ikinukubli't isinisiwalat
Na misteryo at kwento;
Pag-asa, hinagpis, lungkot, tuwa.
Kinang, indayog,
Kislap at paglingap.
Tuwing naiisip kong tumula
At manghuli ng talinhaga
Sa mga butil ng ambong
Naninikit sa aking balat,
Pinapangarap kong laging ganito
Ang pagsapit ng katanghaliang-tapat.

Rommel B. Rodriguez

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Celebrities

By Eric S. Caruncho

Rufa Mae's Body of Success

Sexy comedienne Rufa Mae Quinto wised up and began loving what she did—all the way to becoming a box office bombshell

If you can't do what you love, love what you do.

Sounds weird, but hey, it worked for Rufa Mae Quinto.

"Accidental star —*yan ang dapat itawag sa akin* (that's what they should call me)," quips the chesty comedienne, who has risen to fame playing the scatterbrained sexpot in such movie hits as "Booba" (title self-explanatory) and on the weekly comedy shows "Bubble Gang" and "Idol Ko Si Kap."

She's in front of a mirror, being worked over by a make-up artist for a photo shoot for—of all things—Smart cell cards.

Booba a Smart Buddy? Stranger things have happened.

While her assistants are choosing what she'll wear from her extensive wardrobe of short shorts, skimpy tops and accident-prone low-cut dresses, Quinto explains.

She started in showbiz in high school," says the 24-year-old actress, who grew up in Pag-Asa, Quezon City, the eldest daughter in a brood of nine.

"My *lola* sent me to school. Then I started cutting classes in fourth year so my grades went down. I needed an excuse to avoid a scolding."

Quinto started auditioning for talent agencies, doing the rounds, until she landed a spot on "That's Entertainment," the farm team for local talent.

"*Artista na ako, pero 'di ko pa* feel," recalls Quinto of her early years in the game. "I wasn't enjoying myself. I was always late. I felt like crying during photoshoots because I got impatient."

Things got so bad that Quinto even contemplated leaving show business. Finally, one sleepless night, it dawned on her:

"I realized I didn't love what I was doing. I should love whatever I'm doing."

Cue ray of light breaking through dark clouds. Cue the "Hallelujah" chorus.

Shortly after this watershed insight, Quinto landed her first big break as the lead in "Gloria Labandera." Her career started picking up from there. Her defining moment came with "Booba," in which she played a bumbling secret agent. "Booba" was a hit, helping Quinto stake her claim to the sexy comedy niche. Her managers had initially planned on a career for her in straight bold films, not surprising considering her considerable, uh, gifts.

"I told Boss Vic (del Rosario, Viva Films honcho that I wanted to be a sexy comedienne. He didn't take note of it then. But he recently told me I was right."

Quinto's success may have something to do with the fact that she is a comedienne who happens to be sexy, rather than a sexpot trying to do comedy.

"*Kahit* vice-versa, OK *lang. Ganoon din 'yon*," she replies.

In fact, Quinto has made her mark in local show business as the "expression queen." Her ad libs, tossed off in her trademark nasal voice, have somehow gained currency.

"*Napapansin na ng* audience *yung mga* sayings *ko, gaya ng 'ok,* fine,' *'Pasensya na,' 'Para sa bayan,' 'Todo na,'* 'Move on.' There's something *sa pag*-deliver *ko na tumatatak, nagiging* expression *tuloy. Lahat ng kasama ko nahahawa na, hanggang sa pati ang* fans *at* moviegoers *napapagaya na rin. 'Ika nga, may tatak* Rufa Mae (There's something about my delivery that makes an impression. Everyone around gets used to them, and fans and moviegoers start imitating me)."

No matter what role she's playing, each character is a thinly-disguised version of the real thing. It just so happens that the real Rufa Mae has proven her box office appeal.

These days, the most well-endowed comedienne in local show business is also the busiest. Quinto has just wrapped shooting for "Super B," Neo Films' entry for the Manila Film Festival, which opens on June 12. In it she plays a *carinderia* owner who gains super powers from a magic ring, a la Darna. Apart from having to sit through two hours of make-up every day and sweating buckets in the high tech Super B costume (which cost a rumored P150,000), Quinto also recorded three songs for the soundtrack.

Quinto started shooting as well a third weekly TV series. "Satsu" is an action series with Robin Padilla and Jackie Wu. Predictably, Quinto leavens the mix with sex and humor.

Another movie project, this time with Cesar Montano and Bayani Agbayani, is in the pipeline.

For the past couple of years it's been nonstop work for Rufa Mae Quinto. Every waking hour is spent either in front of the camera, or getting ready for it. The concept of a weekend, of regular mealtimes and eight straight hours of sleep have long since vanished.

"*Wala nang* personal life. *Wala nang* date-date. *Kahit* hang out *with the barkada wala na rin. Todo na* (I don't have a personal life. I don't go on dates or hang out)."

Of course, from a career point of view, this is a good thing. One of those good things that are said to come to those who wait.

More words of wisdom from Booba:

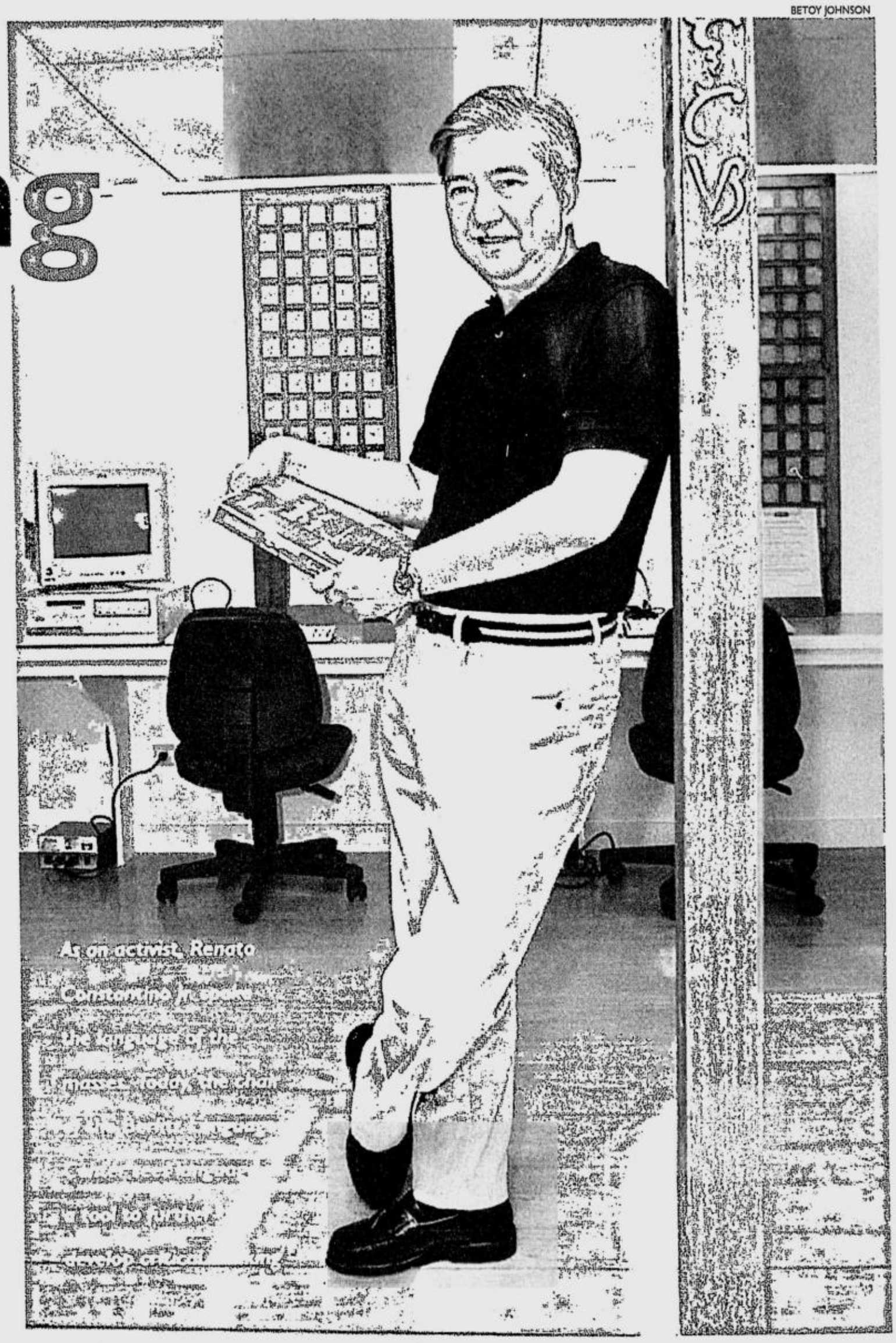
"Take your time. Don't expect anything at first. Make your own style. *Sa hirap ng* showbiz, *hindi pwede aanga-anga. Kailangan maging ma-utak ka* (Because showbiz is tough, you can't be naive. You have to be smart)."

RAYMUND EMAC

Ready for take-off Rufa Mae flies into theaters as Super B

ELIOSE CHUANG

BETOY JOHNSON



As an activist, Renato

Twists of Fate
by Katrina T. Rivere

Talking the Talk

NOW on his second retirement, Renato Constantino Jr. smiles and says he is now "just taking it easy." After engaging himself in a range of different activities—from business to cause-oriented work—he is involved in the relatively less dizzying endeavor of chairing the Berlitz Language Center.

Berlitz, which has been in existence for more than 120 years, boasts of having taught second languages to some of the most prominent people, including American Presidents John F. Kennedy and Jimmy Carter, and celebrities such as Meryl Streep, Antonio Banderas, Katharine Hepburn and John Lennon. It opened its first Philippine center in Makati last March with no less than President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as a guest. "I was pleasantly surprised that she graced our inauguration, given my background," Constantino says, referring to his involvement in the leftist sectoral organization, Sanlakas.

Constantino, Jr. traces his sense of commitment to his father, the late nationalist writer Renato Constantino. "I learned everything practically by osmosis. I was breathing the nationalist spirit in the house," he recalls. As national chair of Sanlakas, he often got into a lot of trouble as the group pressured the government over basic concerns. "I have no regrets," he remarks.

His father taught him about integrity and how one should not make claims that one cannot deliver. "While Berlitz is a business venture, it will not seek to make profit today at the expense of its name tomorrow. If we say we can deliver, we should be able to deliver."

His participation in Sanlakas, and on such issues as civil liberties, human rights and the US bases has robbed him of quality time for his family, but he says it is all worth it. "The struggle itself is its own reward."

His fighting for the Filipino people, he adds, was his way of twisting the tragic irony of our people's persistence in learning so little from the past.

Constantino retired from the business world in 1979, at the age of 35. Until recently, he was in cause-oriented work. "Since I was retired at that time, I had all the time to devote to peasant issues, labor issues, oil price hikes, things like that." However, after a heart operation, he decided to lay low and instead, got into negotiations for the establishment of Berlitz Center in the country. He went to Princeton in New Jersey for training and orientation on the Berlitz method. "I'm not hands-on, but together with the members of the board, we're in charge of policies and strategy," he says.

"It's always an advantage to be proficient in two or three languages." In fact, he enrolled himself in Mandarin lessons to expand his knowledge.

Berlitz is known to tailor-fit its instruction to the specific needs of its students, from career mobility to family and social enrichment. A course can be very specific as in, Mandarin for Business.

What sets Berlitz apart from other learning centers, however, is the method by which it teaches the foreign language. "When we are asked what the method is, I simply throw back the question, 'How did you learn your first language?'" says Constantino. "It's simply conversational, the same way you learned your first words as a baby. And then we build on your vocabulary." The small number of students per class, 12 at most, also enables each student to participate actively in class.

Berlitz students enroll for different reasons, notes its chair. "There is this Filipina whose husband is Japanese. She wants to learn the language before her husband brings her home to meet the parents." And then there are Chinoy lawyers who signed up for Mandarin. "They took up Mandarin during high school and college, but didn't use it so it became useless," he notes.

But he cautions, "It's not the technical knowledge that you bring home that counts. It's having a critical mind and being able to adapt to your situation that's really important."

As if to make up for his earlier activist days when he barely had time for his family, Constantino now sits back and enjoys watching his grandchildren grow.

"My children are my greatest accomplishment. My attitude has always been, in a nutshell, to become irrelevant, to become useless. Your job is to pass on your knowledge and your values. And if it has been imbibed by the parties you're delivering to—your officemates, partners, students, your children—what else can you ask for?"

Constantino is planning to put up more language centers in some key cities in the Philippines. "That is our hope, that Berlitz will be able to contribute what it feels it can, and consequently grow." And if it becomes successful under his stewardship, "then it would be time to sit back and watch the flowers grow."

First Person
by Gina R. Ylaya

Of Belgian Nuns and Internas

IF A movie were to be made of my childhood years in a Catholic school run by Belgian nuns in Carcar, Cebu, the central character would unquestionably be Sister Julia. She looms large in my memory because she had the persona of a steamroller. Heavy-set and walking with a purposeful, mannish stride, she now conjures up images of female SS officers who, in movies, would be given the ignominious task of delousing prisoners in concentration camps.

As second-graders, my classmates and I looked at her with equal parts awe and terror. We had a catechism book consisting of questions and answers, and the drill was to memorize the latter in response to the former. Sister Julia made sure the lessons stuck, with a briskness and efficiency that was breathtaking. It wasn't enough that you knew that there are three persons in one God, you had to repeat this as many times as was necessary to make you positively sick of it. If we were to take a hypothetical statement, say, "When Jesus went to the wedding, he turned water into wine," I could picture her pacing up and down the aisles, wielding a stick, saying in her high-pitched booming voice, "Ven Jesus vent to the vedding, he turned vater into vine." The stick seemed more of a prop than penalty instrument because I don't recall her ever using it to render corporal punishment. The threat of her wrath had a more chilling effect on us than the actual wrath itself.

Now, more than 30 years down the road, whenever I meet a fellow alumnus from that period, we would invariably exchange war stories about Sister Julia. We talk about her in the manner of grateful survivors who now look back on her tough-love teaching with fondness, pride and tons of humor.

The rest of this band of religious expats consisted of: Sister Maria, who tended the garden and manned the cafeteria which, even now, in my memory's taste buds, I associate with fresh *lumpia* containing *pancit bihon* and a few slivers of meat and sayote,

I had a distinctly colonial education, but I never lost sleep over it. Parents who sent their children to UP in the '70s worried they would turn leftist; parents who sent their children to St. Catherine's were unperturbed that their kids might turn Belgian

slathered with garlic sauce, and served on banana leaves cut in rectangles. The small stationery store tucked away in a small corner across the kindergarten classroom was the kingdom of Sister Greta. And Sister Lina, the piano teacher, I came to know because even my frugal public-school teacher mother found the

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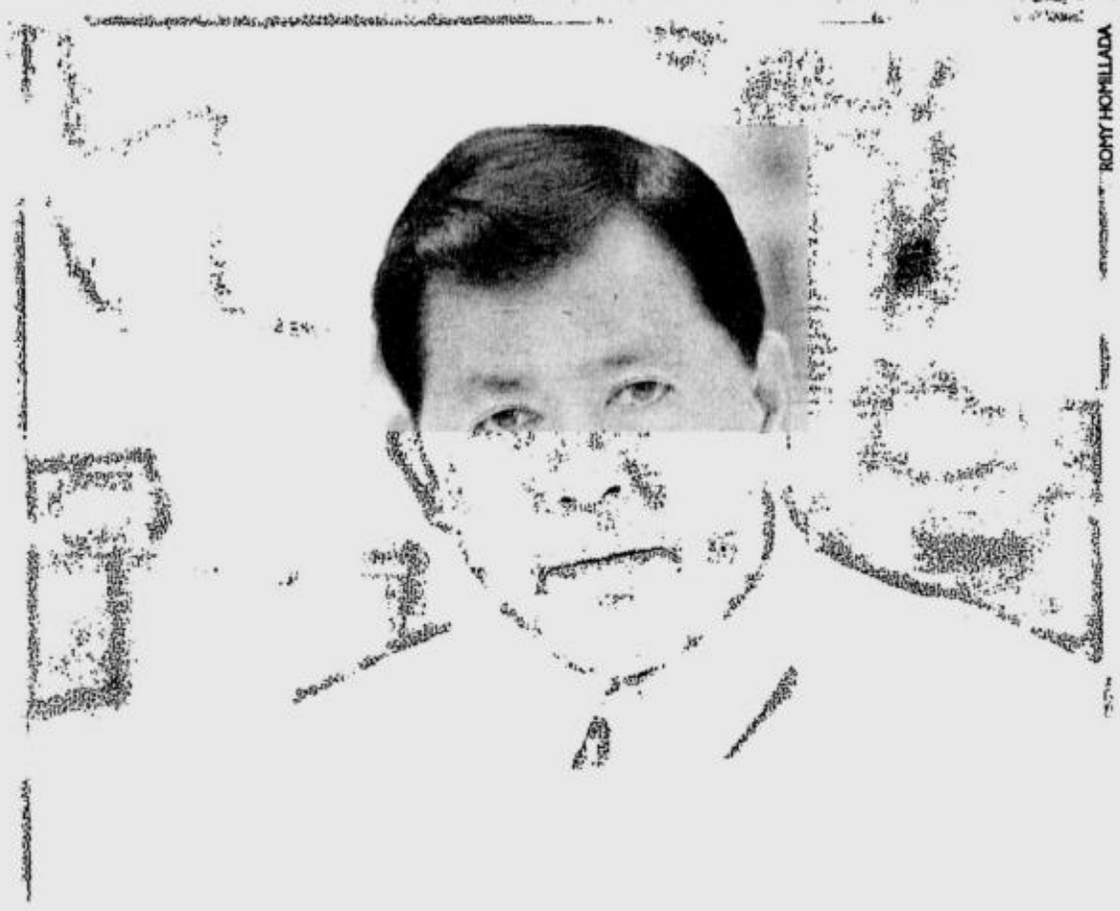
Academe

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

In the Eye of the Storm



ROMY HOMILADA

Former Education Undersecretary Nilo L. Rosas was better known as the bearer of typhoon tidings. Now, as president of the Philippine Normal University, he faces turbulent winds anew as the country's public school teachers challenge the new millennium curriculum

EXT to the weatherman, he was probably the most maligned fellow during the monsoon season in the recent past. Nilo L. Rosas, former Education department Director for the National Capital Region under then-Sec. Isidro Carino, had the thankless task of deciding whether to suspend classes whenever typhoon signals augur floods and mayhem on city streets.

Rosas recalls trudging to the Pag-ASA offices after work at 10 pm, parsing the meteorologists' generic reports and calling them up again at 2 a.m. for the latest update on weather conditions. By 3, he would be linking up with radio stations and by 4:30, would be on the air to announce what parents and students alike awaited with bated breath. At 6 a.m., as if to spite him, the skies would clear. But his day would prove stormy as media rained scathing comments on him, the fortune teller proven wrong once again. "Pag-ASA could only give me general statements so I often ended up making the wrong decision about suspending classes," Rosas recounts. It was a job he hated, he admits, one he tried several times to pass on to local officials who refused it. And so until 1998, this 27-year-veteran of the Education department has had no choice but take typhoons personally.

Thankfully, those days are over and Rosas, 56, has moved on. But the president of the Philippine Normal University could find himself in the eye of the storm again if the protests against the revised curriculum are any indication.

Starting this June, some 16 million elementary and high school students in the country's public schools will find themselves studying five learning areas under the Restructured Basic Education Curriculum (RBEC), also known as the millennium curriculum. Aside from basic tool subjects like science, math, English and Filipino, public school students will be studying Makabayan, which clusters together such subjects as Social Studies, Technology, Home Economics, Practical Crafts, Music, Arts, PE and Health, Geography, History, Civics, Culture and Values Education.

The tool subjects, according to Education Secretary Raul Roco, will be given an hour each during the seven-hour school day, with the remaining three hours devoted to the Makabayan subjects.

While Roco and President Arroyo have hailed the change "as helping the country compete in an era of globalization," other sectors have questioned it. The millennium curriculum, objects Dr. Carol Almeda, chair of the Alliance of Concerned Teachers, "would turn our youth into cheap skilled laborers in the labor market instead of productive Filipinos with a strong sense of history, culture, arts and all-around skills. This is nothing more than a ruthless cost-cutting and streamlining measure at the behest of the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank."

Several critics have pointed out as well: How would the RBEC address the basic ills of the country's educational system, among them the low wages of both teachers and parents, the perennial shortfall in teachers and classrooms and the deteriorating quality of education as seen in the below 50% scores in Math, Science and English in recent nationwide achievement tests?

Far more contentious is the issue of preparedness. How ready are the country's 400,000 public school teachers to handle the five learning areas given the limited training period? The three- to five-day seminars are hardly enough, some teachers have complained, and the teaching materials have yet to be given them. With the limited number of subjects, will teaching jobs be on the line as well?

Such resistance, says Rosas, is expected. "Change breeds fear," he adds, "but as teachers realize the value of the innovation, once they've found it to be more efficient and effective, they'll change their attitude."

No, teachers won't lose their jobs, he reassures. "The school principals will make sure they're not redundant and they won't just be transferred to another district. Teachers can teach singly or as part of a team."

Students as well will benefit from the change, Rosas notes. "Having too many subjects limits the extent to which teachers and students can focus on basic skills. I think we should be more focused on tool learning areas like English, math, science and Filipino."

Such focus, he adds, "would make our students more responsive to the needs of the present environment which is being globalized. We need to be more competitive and technologically advanced." But this is not an ADB-IMF ploy, he claims. "Every country wants to program its students to prepare them for the global village. We're not being pressured nor dictated upon by first world countries. Why, even Malaysia, Singapore and several African countries are doing this."

The limited time allotted to subjects under Makabayan won't shortchange students, either, he counters. "Instead of just teaching grammar and syntax, Filipino and English will be enriched with the contents of other subjects. So you have here a more enriched curriculum because of the integration of the social science subjects into the tool subjects."

Despite his support for the new curriculum, Rosas confesses to some misgivings. "Some basic principles in curriculum development were overlooked," he notes. "Any change should be based on empirical data and needs assessment. The stakeholders—the students, teachers, parents, school managers and people in the academe—should have been consulted."

Having a pilot model would have helped as well. "The research and development model for implementation should follow a phased or gradual level. Then of course, we should consider the availability of instructional materials and textbooks as well as the preparedness of teachers to handle the new curriculum."

Despite his reservations, Rosas weighs in with his support for RBEC. "We should not be adversarial with the Education department, but partners." As president of the country's premier teacher education institution, he believes he is in the best position to train teachers for the task ahead. "We'll have pre-service and in-service teacher-training on how to integrate values and content into tool subjects. We're also looking into the possibility of reviewing the teacher education curriculum to enable teachers to learn integrative and innovative teaching modes and innovations."

Colleagues who know Rosas will agree that he's just the guy to do the job. This BSE Education *magna cum laude* graduate of Philippine Normal College taught Education TV and Social Studies at Lourdes, Xavier and Ateneo de Manila for six years, got an MA scholarship from Stanford University and taught for three years at the Asian Institute for Teacher Education in UP, all these while working in various posts at the Education department. After retiring from government in June 2000, he handled courses in international education, curriculum and teaching at New York's Columbia University where he earlier obtained his Ph.D in Teacher Education.

The drive to excel Rosas traces to his roots. Born in Torrijos, Marinduque, the eldest of seven children, he saw education as the shortest route out of poverty. "My mother was a Grade 7 graduate who sold street food for a living, while my father was a clerk-janitor in a public school in the province," he recalls. Acing his studies, Rosas was soon sending his siblings to school. "They're all successful now," he says proudly. "One is a doctor, another an engineer, another a board member of Marinduque and still another the director of a nursing service in a US hospital."

Just as rewarding, he cites, is "seeing students become literate and helping parents and poor students get access to good education by linking them up with foundations and philanthropists for scholarships."

Rosas has two adopted children: a 24-year-old daughter who's taking up dentistry and a 16-year-old son. Despite the turbulent winds buffeting the country's educational system, he sees sunny days ahead and plans to savor them: "This may be the last segment of my professional life. I plan to retire at 65 and go back to the academe, become a graduate school professor or join an NGO related to education and environment."

Illustration by Albert Rodriguez

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several folds to sport the mini-est mini skirts that riled the nuns no end). Being an *interna* conferred upon you a certain cachet, a charmed and privileged air that had basis in a charmed and privileged family background. Every day they would descend looking well-rested and freshly-scrubbed, with the pleats of their skirts pressed stiff. We commuters, on the other hand, would trudge up the hill , lugging our heavy schoolbags, and arrive just in the nick of time, all sweaty and rumpled.

If you were female, you could be an *interna* from the time you learned your ABCs to the time you learned to surreptitiously exchange love notes with an interesting and interested male classmate. But the boys were *interno* only in grade school, for obvious reasons. I surmise the nuns didn't want to deal with the nightmarish scenario of hormonally-charged teen-aged male and female boarders defying curfew and trysting in the nooks and crannies of the school grounds by nightfall.

I had a distinctly colonial education, but I never lost sleep over it. Parents who sent their children to UP in the '70s worried they would turn leftist; well, parents who sent their children to St. Catherine's were unperturbed about the possibility that their kids might turn Belgian. We had most of the elements of a Western, Catholic education (language drills, spelling and elocution contests, formal and informal themes, school fairs, piano recitals, retreats, etc) and emerged none the worse for it.

Around the late '60s and early '70s, the school turned over the reins to Filipino nuns, and the Belgian presence became less pronounced. When the ICM sisters decided to leave the school to give way to a shift in apostolate, in the process handing the school over to another congregation on the year my class graduated (1976), I didn't realize it then, but that decision ended an era. When I returned recently to celebrate our class silver jubilee, the ICM sisters' absence was palpable, and mourned. Did I expect to come home to a school frozen in time?

All the life-improvement gurus preach the wisdom of not dwelling in the past and living fully in the present. And yes, we ought to be better persons for heeding that. But the Belgian nuns, the *internas* who tested the limits of their open-mindedness, the St. Catherine's School of my youth, and all that they stood for—I wish they had stuck around for a little while longer.

The author is associate Psychologist Ateneo Center for Psychological and Educational Assessment (ACESS) at the Ateneo de Manila University.

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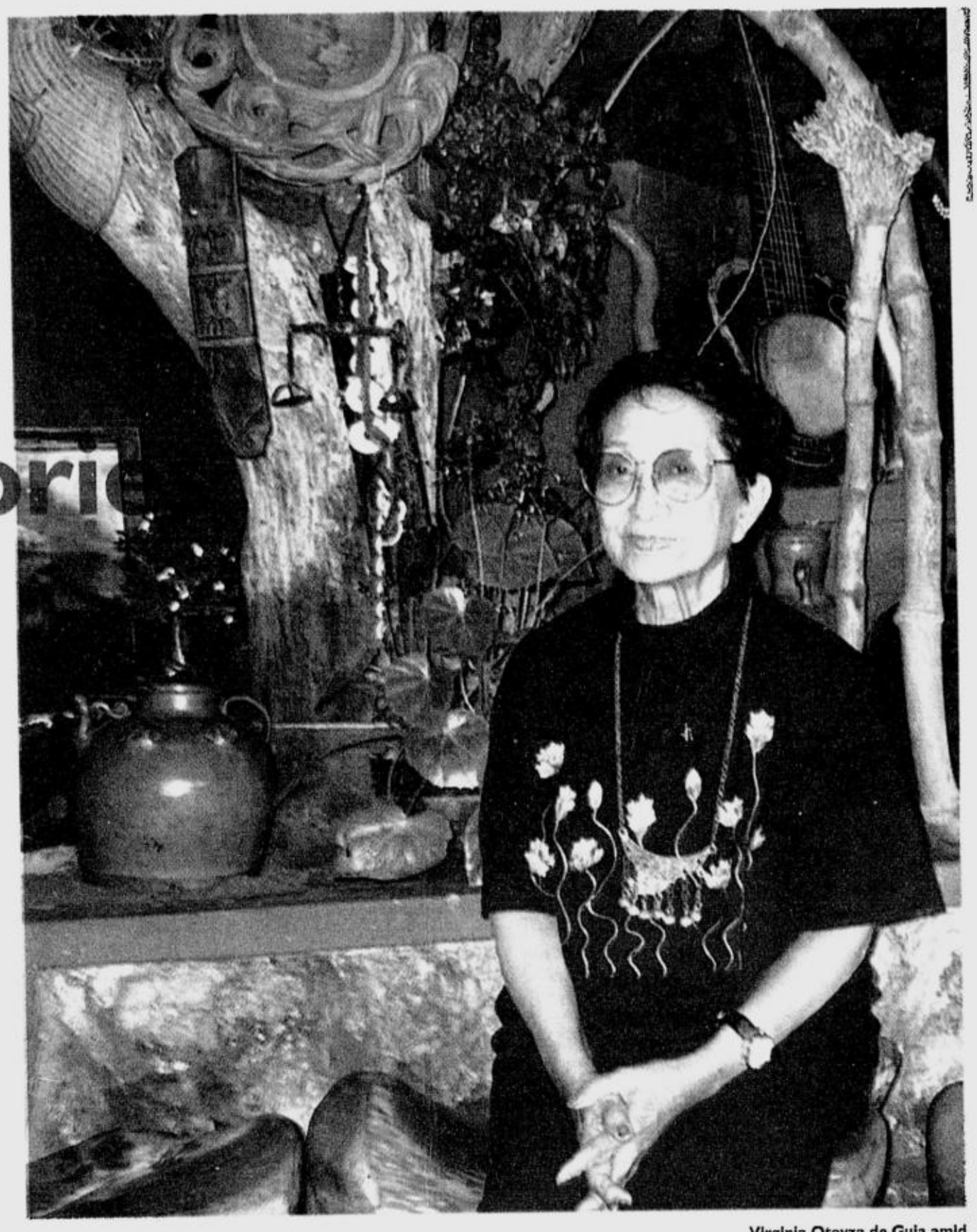
End Page

By Jonathan Best

Virginia Oteyza de Guia's War Memori

The life of the former vice-mayor of Baguio reflects the struggle of ordinary civilians to survive the appalling conditions under the Japanese occupation



Virginia Oteyza de Guia amid her Baguio artefacts

WORLD War II marks a crucial turning point in Philippine history. In the span of five years the Philippines went from Peace Time under the United States, through brutal military occupation under the Japanese, to eventual independence on July 4th, 1946.

Nowhere is this dramatic series of events better illustrated than in the early life of Virginia Oteyza de Guia, former vice-mayor of Baguio. Sixty years ago on Dec. 8, 1941 the war descended on the Philippines with little warning. The Philippine Commonwealth was at peace, prospering, and optimistically preparing for independence, which was promised by the United States for 1945. The war affected the lives of every Filipino, leaving hundreds of thousands dead and millions destitute. A great many stories have been told of the courageous military heroes and guerrilla forces who fought at Bataan. Not a great deal has been written about the civilians who struggled just to survive under appalling conditions.

A few weeks ago I had the pleasure of meeting Gene de Guia for the first time in her cozy house in Baguio and hearing her war stories. Gene is a native of Baguio and proud of it. She did go to Manila for college at the University of the Philippines in the 1930s and made a distinguished name for herself as an honor student, tennis champion, topnotch debater and award-winning actress. Off campus she campaigned for women's rights and became friends with Carmen Planas, one of the first women to successfully run for office after suffrage was granted Filipino women in 1935.

When De Guia returned to Baguio after college in 1940, friends urged her to run for office. Taking a tip from Carmen Planas, she ran a campaign considered unconventional for that time: going door to door meeting as many voters as she could and avoiding back room deals. She won the election against several traditional politicians and served briefly on the City Council until the Japanese occupation. As if public office wasn't enough she married in 1941 and had her first son, Eric, in 1942. He later became the celebrated filmmaker Kidlat Tahimik.

December 8, 1941 abruptly changed their lives. In the early hours of the morning, word came by telegram that Pearl Harbor had been bombed in Hawaii. President Quezon who was vacationing in Baguio had to be rushed back to Manila. Planes appeared in the sky over the city. People thought they were American until they started bombing Camp John Hay. The father of one of Gene's friends was killed when his house near the gates of the Arnerican installation was hit by a Japanese bomb. Confusion and a sense of unreality enveloped the city. Japanese living in Baguio began to be rounded up and put in internment camps. The De Guias had a Japanese tenant who ran a grocery store next to their house on Session Road. He told them to take what they wanted from the store. Thinking the war would only last a short while, Gene and her brother took only peaches, milk and Ovaltine instead of canned goods and long-term supplies.

The Japanese army arrived in January and quickly established martial law. Soon it was the Americans and Allied nationals who were being rounded up. The Japanese language replaced English in the public schools and Gene and her family started taking Japanese lessons from a Buddhist minister. They found that a few words of Japanese helped soften the belligerence of the Japanese army officers. The year 1942 saw the first public atrocities of the invaders. The people of Baguio were ordered to come to the market and watch as the Japanese demonstrated their methods of execution on five Filipino prisoners. As Gene recalled, "One was beheaded, another bayoneted, another shot and so on. It was the people's first horrible war experience."

The war dragged on for three and a half long years, climaxing in a deluge of American carpet-bombing in March and April of 1945. Baguio was left in ruins and most of its population scattered and homeless. Every morning during the bombing people took food and extra clothing and trekked to their bomb shelters around the St. Louis Cathedral on the hill overlooking the city. The fleets of bombers usually arrived by seven in the morning and attacked the city all day, leaving around four in the afternoon. Some days they would circle back for an extra hit, catching the weary residents off guard and killing them with blasts and shrapnel. Gene's mother took refuge in a bomb shelter during one of these raids only to have it collapse on her. Although seriously injured she was fortunate; she was the last one in and the first one rescued. All her companions suffocated and died.

At the height of the bombing, a Filipino guerrilla who had been courting Gene's sister-in-law offered to lead the family down the mountains to the lowlands and safety. They had to leave Gene's mother behind at the Baguio hospital and hike for three nights and four days on foot. Gene carried her baby daughter on her back while a friend carried Eric who was only two and a half years old. They had very little food and no money to buy even the simple singkamas and other produce the peasants offered them along the trail. Outside Agoo, they encountered Manual Roxas and his party who had just come from the mountains and were warmly welcomed by the Americans. Once across Allied lines, the family feasted on so much peanut butter and oatmeal provided by the Americans that to this day, Gene says she never wants to see another peanut butter sandwich as long as she lives.

Their return to Baguio was traumatic. Their house was gone and they were practically penniless, left with little more than the shirts on their backs. By lucky circumstance, Gene found an empty room in the bomb-damaged Vallejo Hotel. It boasted the incredible luxury of running water and a toilet. From this small room, her family of seven started to build their lives again. She returned to the City Council and was appointed vice mayor.

National independence came at last on July 4th, 1946, less than a year after the fighting had ended. As the American flag was pulled down for the last time in front of Baguio's City Hall, Gene de Guia proudly stood by in a simple fuchsia terno ready to raise the Filipino flag for the first time over a reborn city. Not yet 30, she had graduated from college with honors, served on the City Council under the Commonwealth, survived the extreme hardships of World War II and served as the first female vice mayor of Baguio. In the meantime she found time to marry and have two children.

After many years of public service, De Guia launched a successful real estate business and led numerous civic organizations such as the Baguio YWCA, women's Rotary, Girl Scouts and Soroptimists. To this day, she continues to share her wide knowledge of governance with the Mayor and the City Council. She is also an advocate for Baguio tourism and campaigns tirelessly for clean streets, clean parks, law and order and civic discipline. As an avid antique and artifact collector her dream is to one day see a first class Baguio Museum where Baguio's rich culture and history and that of the Cordillera peoples can be showcased.

Comments welcome at Endpage2000@hotmail.com

Love Notes

By Joe D' Mango

Letting the Past Go

I wanted to let go of my memories of him but everytime I do, a part of me dies. If I tell him I love him, I might lose him completely. But if I don't, I keep myself hanging on this love and this pain

Dear Joe,

Why do I still continue to love him even though I know for a fact that he sees me only as his friend, and that he already loves someone else? I have looked for answers for the last two years and I still haven't found any. Marvin and I were schoolmates during our elementary years. We were not really close. Actually, we didn't even talk to each other. I guess it was a sign of us being too young. When we reached high school, he transferred to another school but we still saw each other during Sunday Mass. Still, no communication happened. Our friendship began when we got to first year college. We hadn't seen each other for almost a year then because I heard he finished high school in the States. When I saw him again, I barely noticed him. He had changed. He looked better than ever. I later discovered that we had the same group of friends. Since then we would go out constantly with friends and he even came to my place for some notes he wasn't able to copy. I admired him for his sense of humor. He's also very responsible and a real gentleman. My admiration grew and before I knew it, I already loved him. I confronted my friends about it but they never took me seriously. They treated me like a child just looking for love. But I was more than that. I was a woman in love. For a year, I hid my feelings for him because I was scared to lose the only thing I had of him, and that was his friendship. We eventually left our school for another to pursue the courses we really liked. It was heartbreaking for me because he would be away from me. But there was nothing I could do but accept it and hold on to my love. We kept in touch for the first few months. Both of us were adjusting to our new environment. We were away from our friends and we only had each other to count on just in case something bad happened. After a while, I hardly received messages from him. I just assumed that he was busy in school. I didn't mind him texting me only twice or thrice a month. At least, he still remembered me. It was in July of last year that he last sent me a message. I was worried. He didn't greet me on my birthday, not even on Christmas and New Year. I had no idea what was happening. I felt like he was keeping his distance from me. I was able to talk to a friend of ours a few weeks ago. We talked about relationships she had been in, and everything that had happened to some of our friends. Then she brought up the topic of Marvin. Just hearing his name again was music to my ears! My friend said, "He got himself a girl." I felt my world fall apart upon hearing the news. Tears came rushing down my cheeks and I found myself in deep silence. I wasn't able to utter a single word for a while. I knew my friend was freaking out because of my reaction. It was only then that she took me seriously about my feelings for Marvin. I went home confused and hurt. I did not commit myself to any relationship because I was waiting for him. I wanted to keep myself free for him, and this is what I got. It's not that I'm having regrets. It was a choice I made wholeheartedly. I knew this was one of the many phases of love. I enjoyed the feeling while it was there. I later decided to get over him. I thought I was doing fine until one Sunday, when I saw him at Mass and felt my world fall apart for the second time. It hurt more to see him and to realize that he had someone else. I was fighting back tears throughout the Mass. It was then that I realized I couldn't let go. I hope she's making him really happy. I hope she won't make him cry. Marvin is still my baby. I want to start letting go of my memories, but every time I do, a part of me dies. If I tell him I love him, I might lose him completely. But if I don't, I keep myself hanging on this love and this pain. I don't know if there are words stronger than "confused" and "hurt" because if there are, then that's what I'm feeling. I'm caught somewhere in time. I want my past to be my future because in my past, I was near him. Please enlighten my mind and help me heal my soul.

Sincerely yours,
Dianne

Dear Dianne ,

It has always been said that when we do well today, yesterday will be filled with dreams of happiness and tomorrow will bring a promise of hope. Your past cannot be your tomorrow. It is what you do today that will determine your future. You have allowed your fear to keep you from expressing your true feelings for Marvin, and now he's in the arms of someone else. It could have been you, but then again we won't ever be sure because you didn't dare to take that one bold step when you knew you had to.

Most of the time, in many of our relationships, we fail to recognize the importance of letting others know how we feel. We often keep our sentiments to ourselves because of fear, choosing to keep still rather than hurt others with our words. But what we don't know is that our silence builds walls around us. We keep people away from us when we don't communicate with them.

I believe that the least you can do now is to give yourself the chance to be heard. Let him know how you felt before and how you still feel now, and then just let it go. This may cost you your friendship, but remember that it is better to have tried and failed than to fail because you never had the courage to tell someone how you feel.

Send your stories to : dearjoe@lovenotes.fm

Art

Circular Motion a solo exhibit by Joel Mendez at the West Gallery, Art Walk, Level 4, SM Megamall A until June 11.

100 Years of Blessed Josemaria Escriva, an exhibit highlighting the life and works of Blessed Escriva at the Makati Mall, Glorietta Center until June 13.

Blossoms, an exhibit of flower paintings in acrylic by Del Micor-Camins at Festival Supermall, 4/L, Filinvest Alabang until June 15.

"Lotus Lantern"

Dekormakina, new wall works by Jose Tence Ruiz in acrylic on paper, until June 26 at The Drawing Room, G/F, Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City.

Raul G. Isidro holds an exhibit of recent works of fine monoprints at The Luz Gallery, Locsin Building, corner Ayala and Makati Avenues, Makati City until June 27.

Luna, Christine Valentin's first solo exhibit at Likha Diwa sa Guiod, Lt. J. Francisco St., Krus na Ligas, UP Diliman, QC until June 24.

Paton Miller: Selected Works, a collection of works created by American painter Paton Miller from 1998-1999 at Galleria Duemila, The Art Walk, SM Megamall A until June 28.

Private View, a selection of studies and drawings by Jerome I. Malic, until July 5 at The Lobby, UP Vargas Museum, Roxas Avenue, UP Diliman.

Music

The PWU College of Music presents **Dr. Jeong-Soo Kim and the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra with Maestro Ruggiero Barbieri** featuring Mozart's Piano Concerto in E-flat Major K. 271 on June 10, 1 p.m. at the PWU Conrado Benitez Hall to commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of Dean Felicing Tirona, founder of the PWU College of Music.

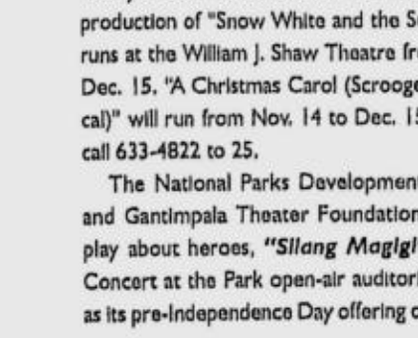
Intramuros Evening Performing Arts Series presents **Buhay Jazz Band** on June 14, 6:30 p.m. at the Baluarte de San Diego Gardens. Led by noted sax player Tots Tolentino, the ethnic-inspired jazz band is composed of Wawee Posadas on keyboards, Meong Pacana on electric and acoustic bass and Mar Dizon on drums and percussion. Admission is free. For inquiries, call 527-3138 or 527-2961.

Cinema

Select Chinese films will be screened from June 13-16 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines to celebrate the Philippines-China Friendship Day. Featured movies are: "Not One Less" (June 13, 7:30 p.m., Invitational, and June 14, 4 p.m.); "The Road Home" (June 14, 7 p.m.); "The Postmen in the Mountains" (June 16, 4 p.m.); "Lotus Lantern" (June 15, 4 p.m.); "Shower" (June 15, 7 p.m.), and "The Legend of the Yellow River" (June 16, 7 p.m.). Admission is free. For details, call the CCP Film Division at 832-1125 loc. 1704-1705.

Onstage

Repertory Philippines celebrates its 35th year and 65th season this month. Friends and supporters from the theater, business and media industry will be treated to a lunch celebration at the Vincent's Bar & Restaurant at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall Car Park on June 10. Theater personalities Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo, Michael Williams, Rem Zamora, Liesl Batucan, Elver Esquivel and Amparo Sieteseales will perform various song numbers from past REP productions. For its 65th season, REP has prepared four critically acclaimed plays: Jeff Baron's comedy "Visiting Mr. Green" opening on June 20; Pulitzer prize-winning play "Dinner with Friends" by Donald Margulies on July 25; William Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing" on Aug. 29, and Jay Allen's romantic comedy "Forty Carats" on Oct. 3. REP's Children's Theater production of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" runs at the William J. Shaw Theatre from July 20 to Dec. 15. "A Christmas Carol (Scrooge—The Musical)" will run from Nov. 14 to Dec. 15. For details, call 633-4822 to 25.


The cast of "Silang Magiging"

The National Parks Development Committee and Gantimpala Theater Foundation present the play about heroes, ***"Silang Magiging,"*** at the Concert at the Park open-air auditorium in Luneta as its pre-Independence Day offering on June 11 at 6 p.m. The play is open to the public. For bookings regarding school and national tours, call Gantimpala at 895-8314 and 895-4924.

Food

It's double the savings and double the fun at **Magoo's Pizza**. For every order of two regular size two-topping Magoo's pizzas, pay only P198. The offer is good until July 15 for dine-in, take-out and delivery orders at all Magoo's Pizza branches.

The Vogue Coffeeshop of the Manila Midtown Hotel gives Filipino lovers an extra treat as it presents a **Filipino buffet** spread until June 23. Sample delectable native selections cooked and prepared like no other. For reservations, call 526-7001 ext. 6554.

Holiday Inn Manila's The Rotisserie features the diversity of Australian cuisine from June 17-29. **Culinary Wonders from Down Under** is available for lunch and dinner. During the festival, diners can get a chance to win hotel accommodation in Australia. For inquiries, call 526-1212 ext. 2505.

Atbp

Caterers, restaurateurs and others planning to start or manage a catering business are invited by ProActive Center for Training to its **Managing a Catering Business seminar-workshop** on June 13-24, 1-5 p.m. at Bedas Restaurant, C-5, Libis, QC. For reservations, call 0919-5500601.

The Philippine Society of Youth Science Clubs Inc. invites all elementary and high school science clubbers to join the **science clubbing movement**. PSYSC conducts annual interactive workshops, science camps and field trips all over the country that aim to promote public understanding of science, technology and environment. Affiliation starts June 10 until Sept. 30. For details, call 920-9561 or 920-8174.

"Ang Paglalahad" by Tence Ruiz, on view at The Drawing Room

Levites in Leadership, a seminar for music ministry heads, worship leaders and band leaders, June 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Chapel, 4th Floor, ACCM Building, 102 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Registration fee is P75. For details, call 819-0697 or 810-7151.

"Tang Dynasty" by Joel Mendez

Shapes: Materials and Procedure Workshop on Mold Making, a two-day workshop on how to mix and mold silicon, resin and plaster of paris, June 10-11 at the Sinag Arts Studio, 664 San Ignacio St., Barangay Plainview, Mandaluyong City. Registration fee is P2,000 inclusive of materials. For inquiries, call 531-3491.

In celebration of Independence Day, The Outlet Yard will have a **week sale** of imported and popular local fashion wear and novelty items until June 16. The Outlet Yard is located at 1480 Quezon Avenue, near the corner of Sct. Borromeo, Quezon City. For inquiries, call 373-3528.

The Philippine Society of Mechanical Engineer-Manila Host Chapter presents the **4th International Food and Beverage Exposition** at the WorldTrade Center (Metro Manila) on June 16-19. To highlight the exposition are seminars on the latest industry practices both here and abroad to educate and update local standards to match with global principles. For inquiries, call 687-2955 or 687-0654.

Circus, Circus, an annual kiddie fair featuring a one-stop shop of children's party trends and a wide variety of exhibits on party themes and decorations, amusement and recreation, apparel, books and magazines, cakes, health and beauty, invitations, photography, toys and novelties, June 16, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Edsa Shangri-La. For inquiries, call 636-9068 to 74.

Ang Bayanihan sa Museo (June 15, 10 a.m.). Join the prestigious **National Folk Dance Company** in an exciting performance and learn-to-dance session at the Karapatan Hall of the Museo Pambata, Roxas Boulevard, Manila. For inquiries, call 523-1797/98.

Housewives, students, out-of-school youth, professionals, private and government employees in need of full time or part-time jobs are invited by **Gioielli Fashion Jewelry** to join its sales force on June 19 at its main office at 1264 Batangas St., Makati City. For details, call 889-4725 to 27.

All young artists are invited to join the **52nd Young Artists Festival Bayreuth** to be held on Aug. 6-31 in Bayreuth, Germany. Workshops for the festival are symphony orchestra, chamber music, choral music, composition, new music, literature, music criticism, sound recording and culture management.

Filipino food festival at Manila Midtown Hotel

By Jess Abrera

Babala sa Ikakasal

The **9th National Telecommunications, Furniture and Furnishing Fair** will be held on June 14 to July 7 at the Centermall, Greenhills Shopping Complex. Exhibitors are companies with exisiting incentive programs on telecommunication, cellular accessories, modern furniture and furnishing, tribal art furniture, porcelain jars and potteries, among others.

All applications should be sent on June 30. Detailed information and free photocopy of the brochure are available at the Music Division of the CCP or call 832-2314 or 832-1125 loc. 1605.

Dansa Studio is offering **dance and fitness classes** for children and adults. Classes include Jazz (1, 2, 3), Ballet (baby, junior, adult), streetdance, ballroom and basic dancesport, aerobics, taekwondo. For details, call 436-6175 or visit its studio at the 4/F, Manna II Building, 33 V. Luna Road, QC.

Calling all high school graduates. **Call Center Academy** will offer the first two-year course leading to an Associate in Customer Relationship Management (CRM) in July. The Center is located at the fifth floor, Fortune Building, Pasig Boulevard, Pasig City with a branch at the Mapua Information Technology Center or MITC, 333 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City. For details, call 671-6717 or 671-1798.

X-manila

Davao Canvasses, a series of works on the theme Davao waterfront and Davao street life by Australian artist Bea Cordea until June 18 at Gallery Five, 5th Level, JS Galsano Citimall, V. Ilustre St., Davao City.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

'Joie de vivre'

Shangri-La Plaza celebrates French month and Father's Day with French-inspired musical performances and the French film festival. The Acoustic Duo, the tandem of flutist Rodel Vidal and guitarist Nobel Queaño will perform at the Grand Atrium on June 14, 5-6 p.m. with Da Capo, the pop jazz duo of Gary Aquilizan and Royce Aviguetero. On June 15, the UP Jazz Friends headed by Prof. Juan Cadiz will render all-time favorites. Noir, a group of talented sopranos, tenors and pianists from the UP College of Music, will be performing classical hits on June 16. The award-winning UP Singing Ambassadors will have their farewell performance at Cinema 2 on June 18. Another highlight of *Joie de vivre* is the 7th French Film Festival, a part of the French Spring in Manila, which will run until June 25 featuring 16 highly acclaimed films. For details, call 633-7851 loc. 110.

"Le Zebre," one of the featured films in the French Film Festival

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Business Management Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Electronics Technology
Hospitality Management
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HIGH SCHOOL (YEAR 1 TO 4)

Controversies
By Gina Abuyuan-Llanes

Mr. Fix-It

Meet 'Jake,' a man who can give you a diploma or a school transcript even if you never attended a day of college in your life. This is how a veteran Manila-based document forger works

Illustration by STEPH BRAVO

THEY know what you want before you even ask for it. They can see it in your eyes, sense it in the way you walk. Once they've identified you as a customer, they'll send one of their runners after you. From afar, the runners make strange gestures, like the ones you would make when asking for the bill from a waiter. The one who catches your eye and manages to hold it gets first dibs. *"Papeles?* (Documents)" he asks, once you get up close. "Boss, *papeles?*"

If you're a longtime client of so-and-so and ask if he's still around (you can drop a name, any name), and haven't been back in quite a while, you'll get the same reaction each time: "*Matagal nang wala yon!* (He's long gone)" It's a sales strategy packaged into a white lie that can work both ways: It can take away jobs from a rival camp, or, if the customer is a disgruntled one and seeks retribution, it can indirectly protect their colleague. Either way, the invitation follows, whether you're a veteran customer or a first-timer: *"Anong kailangan nyo? Sama kayo sa akin* (What do you need? Come with me)."

Their confidence and brashness is almost amusing— and much less offensive than Family First representatives hounding you at the mall. You ask for a birth certificate, they'll say *"kayang-kaya"* (can-do). Marriage certificate? Phone billing? Sure. Class card? Diploma? Transcript of Records? Piece of cake all. If there's anything he can't answer, he'll bring you to his "boss," a man (or woman) stationed a few yards away. Sometimes, he or she is sitting at a portable stall that has examples of his "workmanship" tacked to the sides: a Trinity College Transcript of Records, circa 1996; a diploma from Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila; an ID from STI. You know he's the main man because, like in any office, he's the guy with the best chair in the house. You place your order, settle on the price, and he sends another one of his minions to photocopy your document (if need be - some already have templates and don't need to get photocopied), to get the work started. While all this is happening, the other runners from competitors manage to creep up and hang about, until they're shooed away by the head fixer. In this base, it's "Jake," who's been in the business since 1996.

Jake came to Manila from the Visayas in 1986. He's come a long way from peddling unlabelled canned goods, gotten from a source in Amana Bank, who in turn got them from Borneo, to stalls in Recto. He put up such a stall himself, which was unfortunately bulldozed to the ground. When that happened, he was "obligated to look for a sideline," so he studied "the system" and decided to become a runner to learn the ropes. As he met more people and expanded his network, he became a fixer himself. He prefers it to something more legit because, he says in Filipino, "you're better off than employees in an office here. There's not much hard work to be done. You just stand around, choose your customers, and talk to people."

He's just one-thousandth of the long line of fixers who've populated the Recto area since the '60s. Popular legend has it that an Ilonggo started the business of creating forged documents ("*pikit*" in fixer slang). "He was an artist, and was asked to make some invitations. So he did, and he realized that there might be a business in making copies, so he began to use the silkscreen method and the rest is history."

It's high season for Jake and his cohorts. Nationwide this month, expect an average of 2.5 million students to begin or continue their tertiary education in 1,353 institutions across the country (244 in the NCR alone), according to the Commission on Higher Education data. Once again, the paper trail of sundry requirements—assessment forms, receipts, exam permits, class cards—ensues. For students out to augment their allowances by padding their assessment forms with bogus figures, or unfortunate enough to lose genuine requirements and desperate to enter class, people like Jake are a godsend.

During the first week of enrollment, graduation, or job-hunting season, almost 20 percent of Jake's clients are made up of students. "*Sa ngayon,*" he says, "Peak season. *Mga* 20 percent *ng* customer *ko, estudyante. Marami yon. Minsan, puro studyante.* (Around 20 percent of my customers are students. That's a lot. Sometimes, I get only students.)" His clients don't include the hundred others plying the length of Recto, all the way to Avenida, in search of their own *suki* (preferred fixer). Jake says it's hard to tell how many student clients the other fixers from this Recto stretch gets.

There's no general student profile for those who seek a fixer's services, but Jake says the majority are females. *"May kaya rin sa buhay, de-kotse. Kahit* exclusive school, *nagpapagawa.* (They're well-off, drive their own cars. Some are from exclusive schools)." He has faked papers for students from Mapua, Letran, the University of the Philippines (Manila and Diliman), University of Santo Tomas, La Salle, and Emilio Aguinaldo College. "What they pay to get their assessment forms forged is recovered when they show their parents the one that we did," Jake continues in Filipino. "Sometimes they show up just when I'm about to close shop with urgent jobs. They trust me enough to hand it over the next day, even if they pay first. Then, sometimes, they drop by just to give me *merienda*. I suppose it's their way of thanking me."

Most in demand are class cards and receipts, which are required for some schools to obtain exam permits. Class cards can fetch from P600 up, depending on the difficulty of design or lay-out, or whether they have more than one color and need to be done with a computer. Enterprising students are known to stock up on these, and sell them at much higher prices. Receipts are easier to churn out and therefore fetch P200 to P300, again depending on the design or color, and whether the fixer needs the aid of a computer. The most popular technology employed is still good ol' silkscreening. "It's still popular here," he explains. "We photocopy the original documents, then lay it out on acetate, then transfer it onto silkscreen. It's a very meticulous job. But now that computers are used, the job is much easier. Diplomas, for example, are a cinch. We don't have computers, but there are owners of legit computer businesses who accept these jobs, so we have access to the latest technologies, laser printers. For them it's a secret sideline."

In a society that sometimes places more value on hard copy records than actual experience, prefers titles to real skills, and is replete with individuals used to getting things the fast and easy way, fixers will never go out of business. It's a system that merely reaffirms what many already know but can't prove: Corruption runs not only in our government, but in our people, in the most primary and deepest levels. Forgery of both public and private documents is a lucrative and widespread business, despite penalties (according to Article 171 of the Revised Penal Code) that can range from "prison correctional in its medium or maximum period...two years, four months, and one day...to four years two months and one day...and a fine of not more than P5,000."

When enrollment season flies by, Jake relies on the countless in urgent need of "authenticated" birth, death and marriage certificates long lost or stored in family chests in some far away province. For these jobs, he and his colleagues rely on fellow fixers who loiter around the grounds of Malacañang, and those positioned inside the National Statistics Office, or any government office from where private individuals regularly seek documentation (i.e., Land Registration Authority, Bureau of Internal Revenue). They provide them with the latest, original documents for reproduction references, or with the actual pad of original forms which is then sold by the leaf. "We have connections on the inside who can pull out the original document if you want a record removed. Or, if you want your name added to the records, they can also do it for P50,000. On our end, we add P5,000 more for our (liaison) services. It's expensive because the money just doesn't go to one person, but is shared by the whole section or division." A recorded document—as opposed to an ordinary one of which the government needs no copy, such as a receipt—naturally costs more.

The most Jake has earned so far is P25,000 in a day, for a volume job required by an employment agency for seamen. These included health records and training certificates required for them to work abroad. A land title can cost up to P15,000— "you have to be able to get the watermark right, the grooves, and the paper, which is a bit fibrous. When the price is high, so is the risk and the investment."

What else can be forged? Neuro-psychological exams for security guards ("though the system is starting to be more strict, so less jobs," says Jake); special Bank Receipts; driver's licenses (card type, P750). "We can also do fake checks, for bouncing purposes, but I don't do those jobs because they're easier to detect."

What jobs does Jake turn down? The really big ones that can spell several years imprisonment if he gets caught: counterfeit bills; police IDs; NBI clearances; permits for firearms; US visas (the demand for such jobs stopped recently, because of increasingly stringent rules); and any job asked of them by policemen. "We're in a difficult position because what we do is illegal; a crime. That's why we're very careful, even if we personally know the policeman who asks us to do a job, we refuse it. We don't deal with them. He can turn the tables any time."

Admittedly, Jake and his colleagues are regularly raided by the NBI. "We get caught all the time. But with the current system, there are only a few honest policemen left. Money does all the talking—when they pick me up, they just go around Recto once, in a little while, I'm ready to go free. They can't find any fake documents on me anyway. I give them around P100—multiply that by how many fixers there are in this area. That's a lot. If you aren't willing to pay, you'll be detained a couple of hours in the station. That's about it."

The police are a lesser nuisance than Jake's fellow fixers, some of whom accept jobs that they can't handle and run off with a client's money. "I tell them, why do you accept jobs that you know you can't deliver, then steal their money? It gives our business a bad name. Some minds don't work right. It's hard to work with people who don't think the way you do." Some are drug users. Some accept jobs and botch them, delivering badly-made copies or selling outdated forms that puts the poor client in more hot water once he submits the documents.

For someone in such a notorious field, Jake is a fellow with principles, however curious. "In this line of work, you have to have a sense of PR—you have to know how to talk, and to understand people. A little brains will help. You have to know how to explain to a customer the system, what you have to go through to deliver his order, so he'll understand the costs and risks."

And, as they say, it's not always about the money. "I really believe that I do help people, especially people in need. For example, if someone needs certain requirements for a job application or travel, and he lacks some papers, and I can produce them, he'll never forget me. Because of what I've done, he's able to seek greener pastures and land a job. They come to visit me whenever they're in town. If it weren't for me, they wouldn't have been able to travel."

But how about students who purposely falsify documents to get a better deal from their parents or school? Jake gives a contradicting answer. "What they do is their business. Mine is mine. This is what I do for a living. As long as they keep their word and pay what we agreed on, that's fine. Some students return and give me food—students I don't recognize anymore—and they tell me, 'Thank you, *Kuya*, because of the permit you made, I was able to take the exam."

Well then. If only there was a fixer for morals.